





## Messe Frankfurt's halls of fame

## Providing companies the necessary venue to meet

By Marwan Asmar  
Star Staff Writer

FRANKFURT—People describe it as the greatest show on earth. That would not be an overstatement since it is arguably the most comprehensive consumer products event around. I am of course talking about the Ambiente, an annual event that was held between 14 to 18 February by the Messe Frankfurt.

The Messe, although famous for organizing trade events throughout the year, is the most impressive fair-ground. Indeed, you have to see to believe.

Organized in 10 slab-structure halls, the event had

every conceivable item for the contemporary household. It had everything from kitchenware to the rug, the couch, the table lamp and the bed. But that is not all. The halls had sections about home accessories, decor, different types of furniture, from the classical to the modern to clocks, jewelry and gifts.

The Ambiente, German for ambience, is about modern living, about style and quality. The event was centered on consumer design, comfort and about how to make the household into a home that is designed especially for you and in many ways represents your character, your feelings and your touch.

These concepts were translated by the multitude of

the world's five continents—Australia, Asia, Africa, Europe and America. Countries from the East Asia put a strong show of force with Japan leading a strong contingent of companies from Taiwan, India, Thailand and Japan.

From this part of the world only Jordan, United Arab Emirates, the Palestinian Territories and Israel participated. Although the last had 17 companies, Jordan is a regular participant in the show. This year it had six companies that took part. Jordan has participated in the annual show for the last four years.

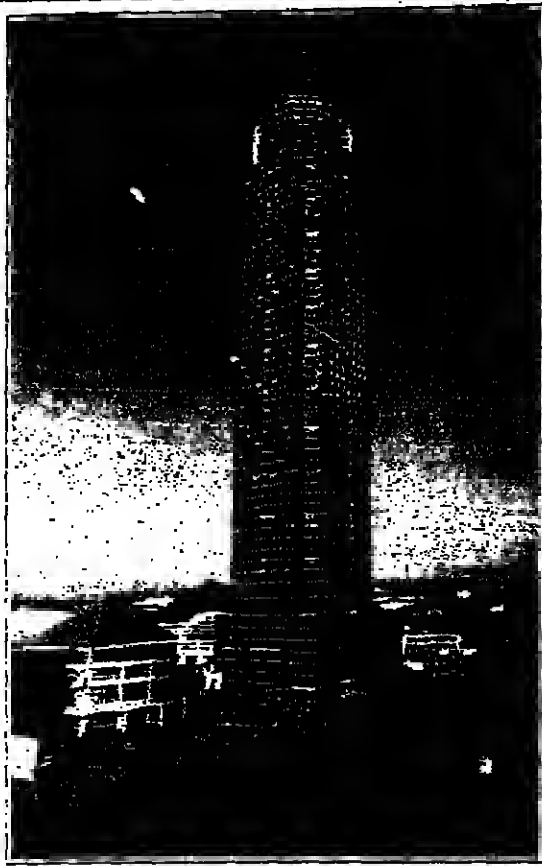
Messe Frankfurt's representative in Jordan is I. Tili-law and Sons Co. Its director Mr. Mohammad Al Tili-law says that one of the purposes of companies in attending the fair, especially from this part of the world, is to gain international exposure, and interact with some of the best concerns in the world.

Because of the vastness of each hall, you clearly need more time to look around. In all honesty four days are not nearly quite enough to examine what's on display. Despite this fact many visited the event.

Opening from 9 am till 6 pm, visitors from all walks of life came in throngs to look at the variety of household products that are on display. Organizers estimate that the Ambiente this year attracted more than 120,000 people who simply wanted to come and enjoy the rich atmosphere that was being displayed.

This also means that the visitors were not nearly all business people. A lot of people were there, of course, to establish contacts and sign deals with other merchants, but the Ambiente was also a social occasion. Ordinary people visited the Messe for sheer enjoyment. Aching limbs and feet did not stop them for it was an outing. People for instance came from all over Germany and many other parts of the world.

Everyone could be argued to have his favorite hall depending on his tastes. One of my favorites was the one that displayed picture frames, posters and drawings. It was interesting to see the different perspectives of art being displayed from different countries. I was



The Messe Frankfurt tower. At 256.5 meters, it is the second tallest in Europe.

for instance introduced to what is called as "can art" from the UK. The artists hit on the idea of curving shapes and designs out of different cans like coca cola or beer cans. These seemed simple yet totally original and very engaging to the eye. Indeed the connoisseur can spend hours gazing at a beautiful picture or something out of the ordinary.

Indeed, this is one of the objectives of the Messe Frankfurt organizers and that is to introduce variety and quality at the same time. Some have went as far as to accuse them of failing to allow enough companies from particular geographical areas, but this is strongly rejected saying it was important to impose restrictions simply to maintain high quality and because the companies that want to participate in the event are increasing rapidly every year.

## Scientists report first Cloning

Continued from page 1

The technique should also speed up the process of genetically engineering animals so that they produce valuable human materials in their milk, a process that could lower the cost and increase the supply of such materials as the clot-dissolving tPA used to treat heart attacks and strokes.

Researchers could also more easily develop animals with human diseases to help scientists pick apart disease mechanisms and provide for the rapid screening of new treatments.

The idea of cloning humans has fascinated scientists since the dawn of the genetic engineering era more than 25 years ago. As early as 1978, the first David Reik was born to the world with the image: "The Cloning of Man," which purported to be the true story of a billionaire's quest to produce a son identical to himself.

Other notable fictional efforts have included "Joshua, Son of Nave," by Los Angeles-based author Nancy Freedman, about the cloning of John F. Kennedy, and "The Boys From Brazil" about the cloning of Adolf Hitler.

Science, however, lagged well behind fiction. About the best genetic engineers have been able to do in the past is produce identical "carrots." Some researchers thought they had made progress in cloning frogs, but the tadpoles produced in the cloning process died before being able to form into adults.

The problem is that the DNA in an embryo is not the same as the DNA in an adult, because it changes during growth. In a mammalian skin cell, for example, those portions of DNA that are not needed in stem are shut down. Scientists have argued whether those segments, if "re-opened," simply placed into storage or permanently altered, so that they no longer function.

Wilmut's work is clear evidence that the former is the case and that the DNA is capable of casting off the shackles that lock it into a specific cell type.

The simple secret, Wilmut found, is to put the donor cell to sleep. He and his colleagues treated the cell so that neither the DNA nor the cell itself were dividing. When the nucleus of such a donor cell is then placed into an egg whose own nucleus has been removed, it miraculously starts dividing again.

Early last year, Wilmut's team took an older cell from an adult ewe, treated it with their new protocol and inserted the newly created embryo into a surrogate mother. In July, the mother gave birth to Dolly, who is now seven months old and seemingly perfectly healthy.

DNA tests show that Dolly is identical to the ewe who donated the udder cell and is unrelated to the surrogate mother.

LA Times-Washington Post News Service



Just one of the many luxury designs in the Ambiente

## Indian promotion week seeks to boost economic ties with Jordan

AMMAN (Star)—The Indo-Jordan Trade Promotion Week proved a wide success, as numerous Jordanian businessmen visited the event at the Indian Embassy in Amman. The promotion week was opened last Sunday by the Indian Ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Gajjanan Wakandar who hoped that such events will boost the bilateral business relations between Jordan and India.

The success of the last year's promotion week, which attracted the Jordanian business sector in Jordan, "encouraged the Indian Embassy to hold the current one," Mr. Wakandar told a press conference early this week.

Indo-Jordanian trade is governed by an agreement signed in 1976, under which a Trade and Economic Joint Committee promotes and monitors the progress. The Agreement signed in Amman in 1976 replaced the earlier agreement of 1963. It was initially valid for five years but now is automatically renewed yearly. Under the terms of the agreement, so far seven Indo-Jordanian Trade and Economic Joint Committee meetings have been held, the last being in Amman in March 1996.

"Over the years, the trade between the two countries have grown rapidly. Although the balance of trade has been in favor of Jordan, during the last few years,

Indian exports have also shown encouraging progress," said Mr. Sanjay Panda, Second Secretary and the Charge



Wakandar

d'Affairs of the Indian Embassy in Amman.

The total bilateral trade in 1995 was \$233 million. India's exports to Jordan which were only \$70 million in 1985, a 10-fold increase in just seven years. As per provisional figures, Indian exports to Jordan have registered a further 15 percent increase in 1996. "As per projections, the bilateral trade figures are expected to reach the \$300 million mark with the commissioning of the joint venture," Panda said.

He added that the phosphoric acid produce of the Indo-Jordan Chemicals Co., will entirely go to India in line with the 11-year buy-back

arrangement.

Since 1990-91, India became the number one importer for Jordan. In the non-oil category, Jordan tops the list of exporters to India from the Middle East, relegating Iraq to the second position. The main items of India's imports from Jordan are rock phosphate, potash and DAP. India exports to Jordan wheat, rice, heavy machinery, laboratory equipment, engineering goods, hand tools, automobiles, auto spare parts, frozen meat, soybean meal, explosives, bulk drugs and basic chemicals.

As part of Jordan's appreciation of India's importance as a trading and industrial partner, and to offset the adverse balance of trade, the Kingdom awarded a number of projects to leading Indian companies, notable among which were the construction of three fly-over projects worth \$14 million in Amman and a \$4 million railway workshop project at Aqaba. A prestigious concrete highway project worth nearly \$110 million was also implemented by an Indian construction company. Another Indian company, Mrs. RITES India Ltd., provided technical assistance to Jordan against three separate contracts with the Aqaba Railway Corp., between 1980 and 1988.

A significant achievement in the Indo-Jordanian relations

has been the signing of a joint venture agreement between the Southern Petrochemical Industries Company Ltd. (SPIC) of India and the Jordan Phosphate Mines Co. (JPMC) for setting up a \$169.5 million phosphoric acid plant at Shidiyah in South Jordan. The joint venture, Indo-Jordan Chemical Company (IJCC) is expected to start production early this year. The joint venture agreement provides for an 11-year buy-back facility by India of the annual production of 200,000 MT of phosphoric acid.

## Released prisoners

Continued from page 1

expressed their thanks to the Kuwaiti Emir for this humane decision.

Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti received a message on Monday from Kuwait's Crown Prince and Premier, Sheikh Sa'ad Al Abdullah Al Sabah. Although no specific details were available, unconfirmed sources said that the message dealt with the release of a number of other Jordanian prisoners and the reduction of sentences against others. The freed prisoners are: Jihad Tawfiq Ibrahim Issa, Riyadh Foad Shaker Ali, Hosni Mahmoud Hassan Hussein, Abed Ma'az Ahmad Mustafa, Ali Ghazi Mahmoud Al Sayed, Ahmed Mohammed Ahmed Hanoon, Walid Hassan Mohammed Karaki, Dawoud Sulaiman Mousa, Hassan Ahmed Hassan Al Khalili and Mohammed Mahmoud Ahmed Zahran.

The prisoners were moved to a rehabilitation center Tuesday to be readied for deportation. Most will be arriving in Jordan early next week, sources said.

## AAM holds conference in Amman with feast of music

THE 14th Conference of the Arab Academy of Music (AAM) is taking place in 3-5 March under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor. The event is organized by the National Music Conservatory of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation and the Ministry of Culture. Delegation from all member countries in the Arab League are also participating in the conference. A full working agenda is on schedule. Discussions are centering on the bylaws of the academy, the annual report, means of developing and expanding the Arab Music Magazine of the AAM and the budget of the Academy.

The program of the conference also includes the Second Music Arab Rostrum during which artists from Arab countries will present authentic Arab Music from their own countries. The Rostrum is held in cooperation with International Music Council of UNESCO. Many unique concerts are being held during the conference. On Tuesday 3 March Jordanian Rida Murad will lead the NMC orchestra in performing Haydn's Symphony no 102 and Beethoven's Symphony no 2.

The Arab Music Ensemble of the Cairo Opera House will perform on 3-4 March at the Palace of Culture of the Al Hussein Sports City. The Arab Music Ensemble of the NMC will also be giving a performance.

## Netanyahu, Hussein talk

Continued from page 1

ities along the past months. The Jordanian-Israeli relations between his agenda too. King Hussein, Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Abdel Karim Al Kabariti discussed bilateral issues with Netanyahu who was accompanied by a delegation of Israeli experts in different fields, like water, energy, economy, including his bids Dore Gold and Danny Naveh.

The talks focused on reviewing the status of various projects, including water and energy ventures as well as trade and transportation.

The King said that he had "extensive talks on all matters related to our bilateral relations, what was achieved so far and what will be achieved in the times ahead," he added that "what we have resolved to do is to lift all barriers."

Netanyahu expressed optimism on the future of the Jordan Rift Valley. "I see a great future for Israel and Jordan, along the Jordan Rift Valley, the valley of peace, the Aqaba-Eilat basin," the King said referring to the Jordanian-Israeli development plans in the valley.

Observers believe that the key bilateral issue was Israeli willingness to forgo the establishment of an Aqaba-Eilat airport, and agree that it was more feasible that international airport be built solely in Aqaba with special arrangement to be made for Israel.

During the joint press conference, the King expressed hopes that the desolated Syrian-Israeli talks "will resume before long to achieve the objective that is clear to all of us." The King stressed that he is ready to help in that regard.

On his side, the Israeli premier said he was seeking to resume peace talks with Syria through the mediation of the

United States. "I hope that the coming weeks will result in demonstrating whether Syria is interested in resuming the talks."

Observers believe that the Israeli leader might have hoped his visit to Amman would provide a respite from at least one of the political storms brewing at home.

Under pressure from rightist members of his coalition to proceed with the Har Homa plan and from Palestinians and other Arabs to stop it, Netanyahu also is beset by speculation here about his role, if any, in a growing scandal over possible corruption in his government's appointment last month of an attorney general.

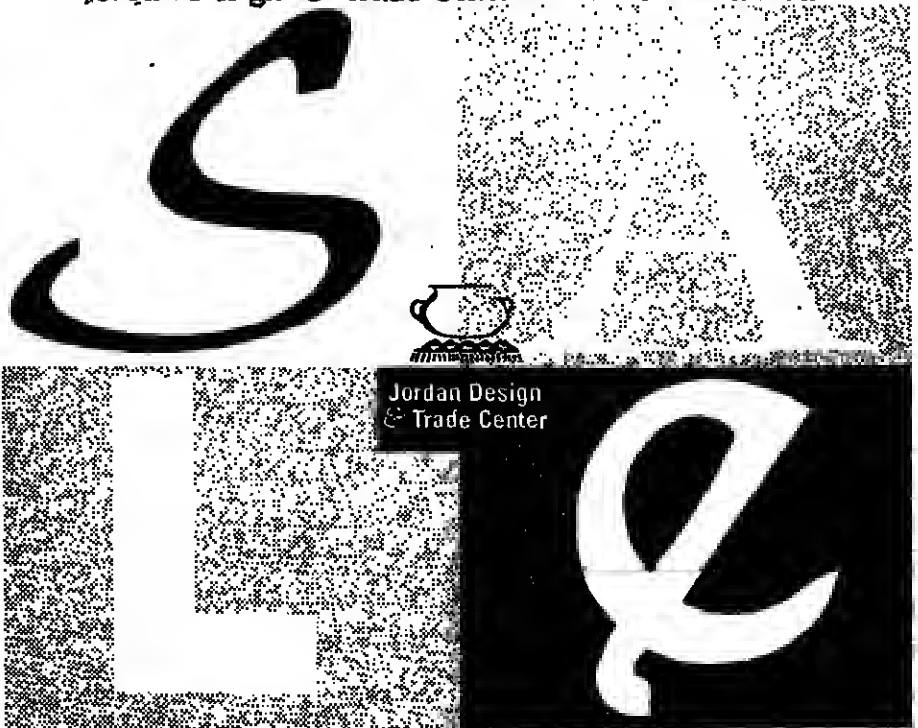
Netanyahu has denied wrongdoing. But given the troubles facing him, an editorial in the daily newspaper Maariv noted Sunday, "One should hope that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu won't ask King Hussein today for political asylum."

For the last month, police have been investigating allegations that senior officials in Netanyahu's office conspired to appoint an attorney general who would reduce pending criminal charges against a political ally. The attorney general, lawyer Roni Bar-On, resigned less than a day after taking office.

After a warning by police last week that his statements on the matter could be used against him, Netanyahu hired a lawyer over the weekend who immediately mounted a spirited media campaign to defend his new client.

"I am not representing a lonely man, I am representing a very self-confident man," Yaakov Weinrot told Israel's Army Radio in one of several interviews. "He is certain the police will prove his innocence in this investigation."

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JORDAN

W E E K

An unconventional report on Jordanian news and views edited by Marwan Al Asmar



**Mjalli is favored in JLA's elections**  
Incumbent President of Jordan's Lawyers Association (JLA) Hussein Mjalli will be standing for re-election on 7 March. He is being challenged by three other contestants: Saleh Al Armouti, Zuhdi Al Disi and Omar Dumra. However, it is thought that Mjalli would be re-elected because of the wide body of support he has among JLA members. The JLA movement, for instance, is reported to be giving the nationalist candidate its support. About 50 other candidates will be standing for the JLA's 10-member executive council.

**An American university in Jordan**  
Jordan's first American university will be built in Aqaba. The project received the Ministry of Higher Education's seal of approval and a site for its location on the southern coast of Aqaba has already been chosen. The body behind the decision to set up an American university in Aqaba was the Higher Council for Science and Technology. It is stressed that once established, the university would offer specializations related to the needs of the region.

**An alliance with a Baathist touch**  
First it was the right, then the center, now it is the nationalists or the Baathists to be more precise. Baathist forces are on the verge of forming a new Jordanian National Democratic Action Front that would include parties of the Baath Socialist, Baath Progressive, and National Work. The Land Party would also become a member. At the moment negotiations are still underway being spearheaded by Lower House deputy Khalil Haddadin, who himself is an old Baathist.

**Corruption cases uncovered**  
A number of corruption and mismanagement cases have been uncovered at the Aqaba Free Zone involving the embezzlement of hundreds of thousands of dinars in duty funds. The official figure is that JD 750,000 have been rechanneled into private pockets, but the figure could be as high as JD 3 million. It is believed that up to 12 people were involved in the scam, seven of them are employees of the Zerga Customs Office located in the free zone. The anti-corruption squad is still investigating the case. The culprits forged official customs documents. In one case duty on a latest Mercedes car was estimated at 230 fils when it should not be less than JD 30,000.

**Law to limit custody**  
Hail public liberties! Lower House deputies are calling for a new law that would make it illegal for the holding of ordinary citizens in custody for more than 24-hours without charging them. The 23 deputies say that many violations have occurred in the past especially by the Ministry of Interior and that this is one way to tighten the law and protect public liberties. Although only 23 deputies are behind the petition, there seems to be a growing consensus from all sides under the dome. The petition for the law was signed by Islamic Action Front and other deputies. These included the speaker of the Lower House, Saad Hayel Al Sroor, Jamal Al Khreisha, Muhammad Abu Elaim, Nazih Amareen, Nader Abu Shaar, Badier Al Rabadeh, Mifteh Al Lowzi and Bassam Haddadin. The constitution allows the Lower House to initiate such laws, but before they are accepted they have to go to a special committee in the Lower House and then presented to the government which would then draw up a draft law and present it back to Parliament for full discussion.

**Thank God for television!**  
Television is a more powerful medium than we originally thought. Figures released by the Public Statistics Dept. show that the majority of Jordanians receive their news from television rather than radio. About two-thirds (64 percent) of those polled said they never listen to news on radio, whether local or other Arab stations. The figures rise further to 75 percent among females and 71 percent among males. However, it was found that more than 70 percent of those polled receive their news from television. This figure increases to 80 percent among the holders of university degrees.

**Statistics, statistics**  
This week it's all go. Statistics are falling all over the place. We suddenly find that we have 165 advisors in the government. Not very much, one may conclude, since we have a big government and a lot of ministries to take care of. According to Al Bilad, for instance, 14 of these advisors are in the Prime Ministry alone. Again not much, it may be argued since there is a lot of ground that needs to be covered. And quite right too, but some say that a number of these don't hold the necessary qualifications for these sorts of jobs. Now, if that is true then it would be had management.

**Women for by-elections**  
Isn't it wonderful to have more women participate in the country's political life. About 10 women have stood for the municipal elections, that was held yesterday, 26 February. Final results are not yet out but it will be interesting to see how many seats they will win. We already have one woman mayor, Iman Fatafah, who won in last year's elections. She represents Al Wahadneh district in the Ajloun governorate.

Rains bring promise but take their toll as well

AMMAN—A cold front ushering rain and snow began to recede by mid-week but not before leaving three school-age children dead. The storm was good news to Jordanian farmers, promising a good agricultural season. Dams across the country reached near full capacity and the flood gates of King Talal Dam were opened for the first time in years to get rid of sediments and polluted water and take in fresh rain water.

The Water Authority said the rains will help feed underground reservoirs and aquifers. Three children—ages 8, 10 and 12, were swept away by flash floods in the Amman area while they were on their way to school on Sunday. Maha, 10, fell into a flooded river bed in West Amman and her body was still missing early Wednesday. Large rescue operation by Civil Defence workers are still going on. Earlier reports suggested the girl was found. Two Sahab area children, a boy and girl, were swept away by flood water as they tried to cross in the other side. Their bodies were found five kilometers away.

The Civil Defence team were kept busy as a result of heavy rainfall throughout the Kingdom. Rain, fog and 100-kilometer-hour winds interrupted power supply and closed roads in some areas. Puffs particularly affected were low areas and those near streams.

Civil Defence Dept. sources said they dealt with more than 400 accidents in the Kingdom since the beginning of the week.

Official sources reported that dams had reached more than 80 percent of their capacity. The Wadi Shuhud dam whose capacity is 1,430 million cubic meters was completely full, while King Talal dam is more than 80 percent full.

Amman Mayor Mandoob Al Ahbadi said that his team of workers managed to control the situation. He said that emergency centers that were set up were more than adequate to deal with any emergency or accident.



Showering in rain, Amman this week

Snow fell in different areas of the Kingdom reaching 30 cm in Ajloun mountains. Light snow also fell in West Amman and in Sweileh, Shobak, Tafilah and Karak. But roads remained open in most of these areas.

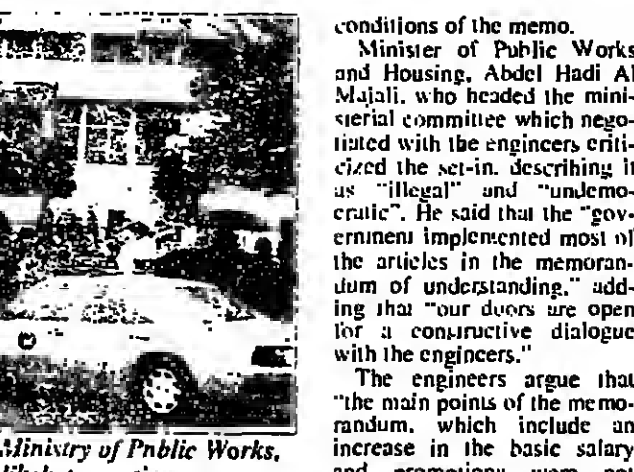
Sources at the Ministry of Agriculture said that the rainfall will have a positive effect on the summer crops and produce particularly olives.

However, in the southern Ghor region, the 60-kilometer-hour winds damaged banana plantations and other crops were badly affected.

Confrontation looks imminent between government and JEA

AMMAN (Star)—In spite of the cold weather, rain and hail, about 400 engineers staged a sit-in in front of the Ministry of Housing and Public Works demanding pay increases early this week. The demonstration was organized by the Jordanian Engineers Association (JEA) in a show of support of about 2300 public sector engineers, who are demanding a 180 percent increase on their basic monthly salaries of JD 150. The government said it has agreed to an increase in allowances by 120 percent. The sit-in was the first step of an escalation program, launched by the JEA's general assembly.

By its industrial action the JEA seeks to force the government to implement the articles of the Memorandum of Understanding reached between the government and JEA, three months ago.



JEA demonstration outside the Ministry of Public Works, last Saturday. Industrial action likely to continue.

The engineers also demand promotion to higher levels on the public level employee scale. The ministerial committee which was established for that regard held several meetings with the JEA to discuss implementing the articles of the memo.

Minister of Public Works and Housing, Abdel Hadi Al Mjalli, who headed the ministerial committee which negotiated the sit-in, describing it as "illegal" and "undemocratic". He said that the government implemented most of the articles in the memorandum of understanding, adding that "our doors are open for a constructive dialogue with the engineers."

The engineers argue that "the main points of the memorandum, which include an increase in the basic salary and promotions were not implemented by the government," said Mr Husni Abu Ghaidia, vice president of the JEA.

The engineers are to hold another sit-in in front of the Prime Ministry on Saturday. If the government does not yield to their demands, the government is sticking to

Showdown expected over Jerusalem decision

Continued from page 1

and fired in self-defense. Villagers said the three soldiers, dressed in civilian clothes, entered Hizme in an apparent search for a suspect, then beat one young man and shot and killed his father-in-law before wounding others.

Ali Mullaq Salaheddin, 46, said he was shot in the leg while trying to persuade the Israelis not to shoot his nephew, Hamzi Naif Mubarak, 22, who was being held face-down on the ground behind his home.

"I said in Hebrew, 'There's no problem. Let him free and just leave here,'" Salaheddin said, as he sat on a pad in his home several hours after the incident, his handaged, bloodied leg stretched out before him. But he said that when he approached the men, raising his hands over his head, they fired, hitting him in the knee.

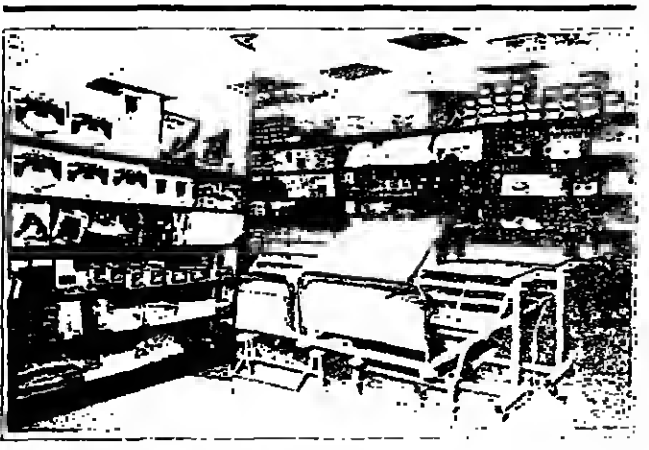
Salaheddin said the man killed was Mubarak's father-in-law, Muhammad Abdul Aziz Hilawi, 56, who was shot in both legs, apparently as he tried to help his son-in-law. And several villagers, including Salaheddin, said they saw one of the three Israelis sitting on Hilawi's back as the man lay hurt on the ground.

Junior Muta'weh, 42, said he saw the soldier speaking into a walkie-talkie as he sat beside Hilawi, saying, in Hebrew, "I have a criminal here." Muta'weh said Hilawi was then carried to an army jeep and may have been injured further when the vehicle lurched backward, pinning his legs between the vehicle and a rock behind it.

Hilawi died a short time later at Jerusalem's Hadassah Hospital.

Officials at Ramallah Hospital said two of those involved in the incident were beaten, including Mubarak and a woman identified as Ahir Muhammad Abdul Aziz. Both were released after being treated.

Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordecai, Israeli television news reported, sought to calm the situation, clearly aware that the shooting could heighten tensions. The defense minister was said to have instructed military leaders to convey "calming messages" to the Palestinian Authority in the wake of the incident.



Al Noor Medical Establishment opened its new exhibition in Amman, Al Farid Bldg., this week. The exhibition offers a selection of latest medical equipment including electronic and digital blood pressure, diabetics and asthma measurement instruments. It also has a selection of wheel chairs, air mattresses, massage equipments, medical stockings, corsets among others. It also has a variety of health and fitness machines. The establishment supplies local hospitals with different medical needs and equipment under the supervision of its technical engineers.

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Economic upturn on the way argues Annani

Continued from page 1

Dr Anani, who was a member of the Jordanian peace delegation, said Jordan has been witnessing an important economic transformation that has not been highlighted well enough. He added that the transition to a corporate economy from an individually controlled one means that Jordan has created an investment environment. He said that the era of foreign aid was over and that historical dependence on aid was a mere coincidence and not a rule.



Anani

Dr Anani said that for Jordanians the biggest problem now is the lack of liquidity, but added that the stability of the dinar is the most important asset for the country. He predicted that prices of construction raw material will go down by 20 percent this year because of a decrease in construction activity. But he said the construction sector could see growth as of next year.

He said Jordan needed large investment projects to absorb excess labor and reduce unemployment adding that the labor situation in Jordan was puzzling. Dr Anani said the labor force in Jordan totalled 1 million, about 50 percent of which is employed by the public sector including the military. But he added that the private sector depends mostly on expatriate labor.

Dr Anani called for the rehabilitation and training of the unemployed by focusing on new professions and skills especially that measures are being adopted to decrease the size of the public sector.

He said if recovery is measured by an increase in production, reduction of deficit and increase in foreign currency reserves, then such a recovery is not expected to take place in 1997 because these indicators and others have all been improving over the last four years.

He said what is needed is for the government to adopt measures to facilitate the way for new investors especially those who have projects that will depend on labor. But he added that did not expect an end to the dinar liquidity problem and a drop in interest rates. Dr Anani stressed the need to open new export markets especially in North Africa and increase trade with Iraq and the GCC countries. He also hoped trade will increase with the Palestinian areas.

Human rights

Continued from page 1

"beatings, nail pulling and mus-tache pulling by pinners, and verbal insults." The report added that "the heads of several detained political leaders were shaved despite the fact that there were no charges against them."

The organization asked for an investigation committee to study cases of "some persons belonging to Islamic groups who were tortured".

Concerning freedom of expression, the report said while the country witnessed relative openness regarding freedom of expression, laws were still in need of liberalization.

The report claimed that the government became intolerant of the "other opinion."

Regarding the weekly press, the report claimed that the government used the Press and Publication Law to punish journalists.

The report claimed that authorities withdrew passports from some citizens and refused to renew others.

Some Arab journalists who were invited to participate in

**The Star**  
http://www.arabia.com/star

**Under the Patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein**  
**The National Music Conservatory/Noor Al Hussein Foundation**  
in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture will host

The 14th Conference of the Arab Academy of Music (Arab League) and the 2nd Arab Music Rostrum (International Music Council - UNESCO)  
The Royal Cultural Centre  
Amman, 3-5 March 1997

On this occasion do not miss

THE DEBUT OF JORDANIAN CONDUCTOR RIDA MURTADA performing Haydn's Symphony No. 102 and Beethoven's Symphony No. 2 with THE ORCHESTRA OF THE NATIONAL MUSIC CONSERVATORY  
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The Royal Cultural Centre - Main Theatre JD 7

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LURIE'S WORLD



"Here, Boris - I brought you some chicken soup!"

## Our Say...

## Inching towards a showdown

ISRAELI PRIME Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is once again pushing the region into a state of spasmodic tension with his decision this week to give the go ahead to building a Jewish settlement in East Jerusalem. But that's to be expected. As Israel and the Palestinians move closer to the beginning of final status negotiations, which will include the fate of occupied Jerusalem, the Israeli leadership is gearing up for a full-fledged campaign to stake its right to what it sees as its eternal and indivisible capital.

The Arabs, on the other hand, are not even ready for a skirmish! It would be wrong to say that Jerusalem is Arafat's problem. It would be foolish for the Arabs to settle political scores between themselves when the identity of Jerusalem is at stake.

Jordan is probably the only Arab country that sees the looming danger and the heavy price that we are required to pay if the issue of Jerusalem is not resolved peacefully and justly. It is not an exaggeration that Jerusalem now symbolizes the true spirit of peace in the Middle East. The emotional attachment that Israel shows towards the Holy City is indeed matched by the Arab people, Muslims and Christians alike. In effect, the Judaization of Jerusalem will blow to pieces the shaky agreements reached between Israel and the Palestinians. If that happens, then anything can happen in this troubled region.

Let us note the following: The United States, the self-proclaimed honest broker and self-appointed administrator of the Middle East peace process, has not made a move to stop Israel's latest violation of the agreements signed regarding settlements, land grab and the Judaization of Jerusalem.

The so-called international community, symbolized by the once domineering Security Council, has also opted to ignore the grave violations of the Israeli government for fear that any strong condemnation of Israel might jeopardize the peace process.

The Arab world has done nothing to register its objection to what is going on in the Holy City. No calls for an Arab summit, no pressure on Europe and other friends to intervene.

That leaves the Palestinians. The PNA today is looking more fragile and vulnerable than anytime in the past. Palestinian officials warn of a bloodbath and of a Palestinian backlash. But they fear that backlash as much as the Israelis. If their deal with the Israelis falls through, so will they. The PNA is not ready to fight for Jerusalem because it does not have the strength to do it.

But Mr Netanyahu knows this already. He can count on America's self-incriminating silence, and on Arab divisions and total uselessness and on the PNA's vulnerability. The only thing that Mr Netanyahu fears is the Palestinian backlash. And that backlash will be coming for sure because Palestinians the only real losers in this diabolic series of events. They stand to lose their land, their homes, their identity and their source of life. They will not fight for Arafat, or for the Arabs or for anything other than their right to live. ■

## Rabin's peace and Netanyahu's process:

## Two sides of the same coin

By Professor Naseer H. Aruri

THERE IS a new conventional wisdom emerging about the Middle East peace process: Benjamin Netanyahu is a hindrance to peace. Adherents to the now circulating self-evident truth include international business people, their political counterparts (known nowadays as globalists), liberal US commentators, Arab officials, EU leaders, American Jewish leaders and former top US officials in the Bush, Reagan and Carter administrations. Even President Clinton, who had thus far behaved in accordance with the assumption that Israel can do no wrong, has hinted that all is not well with the "peace process". His mild rebuke coincided with the much stronger statements by James Baker, Lawrence Eagleburger, Zbigniew Brzezinski, Cyrus Vance and others, accusing Netanyahu of undermining Israel's security and US interests. And yet, he insured that his remarks did not represent an open scolding to Israel as much as they appeared to counsel "both parties" not to "pre-empt the outcome" of final negotiations.

An underlying assumption of this verdict against Netanyahu by the distinguished jury is that a peace process, which began in 1978 at Camp David (when Vance was Secretary of State and Brzezinski was National Security Advisor), stumbled shortly afterward, resurrected and fine-tuned in 1991 by James Baker and colleagues in the Bush administration, and then offered to Clinton for blessing in 1993, has been viable until the initiation of Netanyahu's tunnel and settlements policies in October and December 1996. A corollary of this assumption is that Netanyahu has departed from the "enlightened" path of Rabin and Peres, thus endangering the "peace process".

How valid is this emerging thesis? How valid is Netanyahu's own position that his policies conform with Oslo I and Oslo II? What were the parties' own perceptions of Oslo I and II?

## Labor and Likud—what difference?

Since the inception of this peace process—1978 or 1993—Rabin and Peres has not embraced a radically different "peace" from that pursued by Begin, Shamir and now Netanyahu. The conventional wisdom that Netanyahu has derailed Rabin's peace train and injured its most prominent passenger, Arafat, stands in contradiction with the realities of Israeli politics: irrespective of party label, Israel excludes Palestinian sovereignty, removal of the settlement, negotiating Jerusalem, and Palestinian reparations.

Limited autonomy constitutes Israel's alternative to sovereignty, and was first adopted by the Knesset in 1977 and dubbed the Begin Plan, the centerpiece of Likud's Camp David. It also became the essence of Labor's Oslo agreements, albeit in a more limited form than Begin's autonomy, and a far cry from Carter's and Sadat's "full autonomy". Labor's Allon Plan, based on the classical Zionist doctrine of "separation", was sufficiently adapted to Likud's "mixture of population", in as much as that mixture now translates into cantonization.

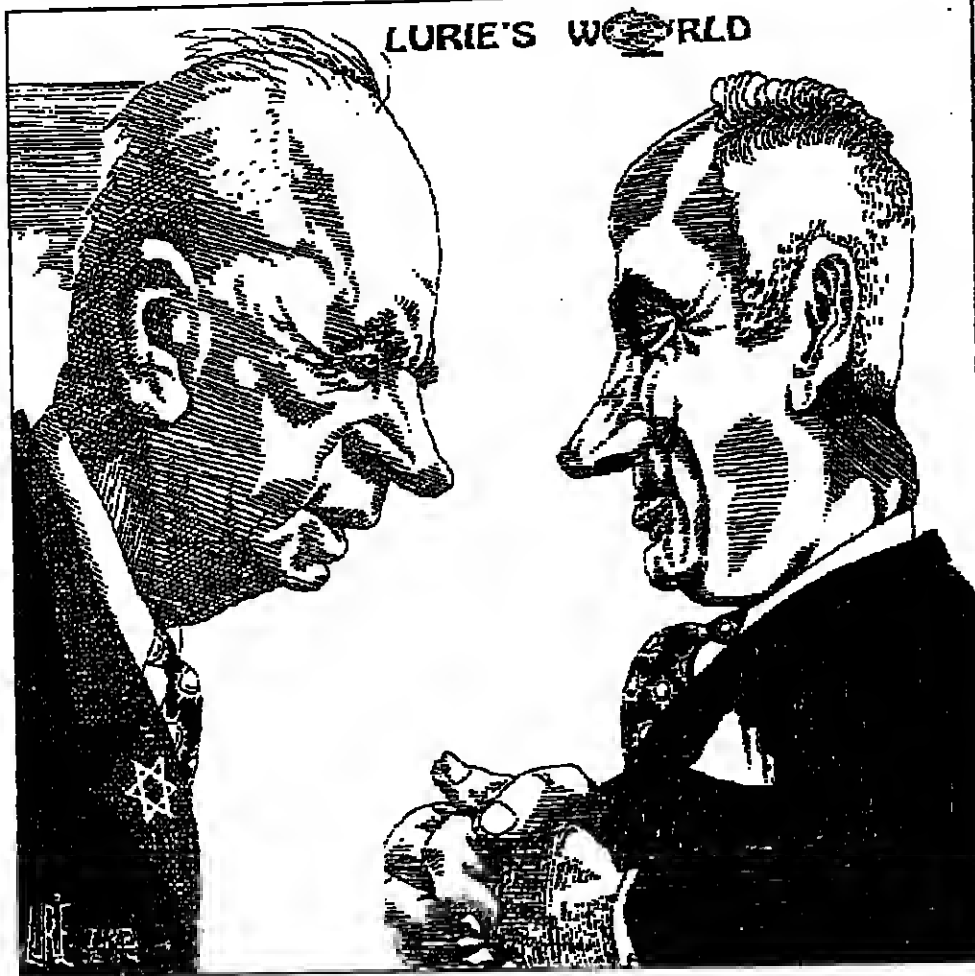
Under Oslo II, Palestinians in the West Bank and in Gaza are enclave residents "separated" from Israel, but part of a greater Israel. They are separated from settlements, from Jerusalem, from each other within the West Bank and Gaza, and rendering the two occupied region separate from each other, and from the Palestinians in the Diaspora. The fragmentation is now becoming social, economic, physical, and regional, despite Oslo's provision of a single unit.

The Hebron model presages deeper fragmentation and sets a precedent for cantonizing. Netanyahu's insistence on re-negotiating Oslo II on Hebron hardly puts a dent on the already signed and sealed scheme of that city's partition, allocating the core to the 400 Jewish settlers while rendering the 120,000 Palestinians to the periphery.

The December 1996 Hebron agreement has only minimized Netanyahu's attempt to re-negotiate the city's division and security responsibilities, established on 28 September, 1995. It should be emphasized that the DOP grants Israel overall responsibility for the security of Israel. That would make the issue of hot pursuit superfluous. Israel does not need a specific clause to permit its forces to enter the Arab sector of Hebron designated as H-I.

Slicing the West Bank and Gaza into three separate but not equal zones was in fact Labor's solution to Likud's earlier dilemma: how to insure that their absorption of the Occupied Territories (which contradicted with Labor's formula of separation) did not lead to a bi-national state. Oslo II provides Israel with the land without the people, thus meeting Labor's requirement of ethnic purity and separation, in conformity with classical Zionism, and accommodating Likud's proclivity for penetration into Arab population centers. The synthesized formula which is referred as mixed control arrangements is apartheid, pure and simple. It was hailed by Ariel Sharon, when the Oslo map was first published in the Israeli press, as a vindication of his 1981 "Cantonization Plan".

Labor's presumed "territorial settlement" and Likud's "functional settlement" are reconciled. The increased decoupling of Gaza from the West Bank and the easier communication between the West Bank and Jordan suggest a possible Israeli convergence towards the early '70s formula by Moshe Dayan, known as "functional



compromise". Israel would maintain sovereignty over the West Bank while the Palestinians would have control over their interests in association with Jordan. Gaza would then become the closest thing to a Palestinian entity.

## Repudiating the process, but not the "Peace"

Netanyahu's policies, therefore, do not repudiate his predecessors' "peace", but only the process. Whereas Rabin and Peres succeeded in enlisting their adversaries' participation, Netanyahu, who must cater to the ideological right-wing, made the adversary cum-subcontractor seem like a national hero.

Netanyahu's policies seem to threaten this system, despite their conformity with Oslo's objectives, hence the unrest in the components of the system—Israeli, Arab, Palestinian, Western. Dissent by credible sectors in the Israeli political and security establishments, by Arab partners, by the P.A., by American Jewish leaders and international business, reflect a collective apprehension that Netanyahu's tampering with the process may impair the "peace", in which they all have a vested interest. Thus Netanyahu has gone "too far", even for the usually obedient P.A. functionaries and the compliant Arab regimes. Hence Arafat's sudden snubness and the recent Arab threats to reconsider normalization; hence also Baker's reference to "progress made by the peace process over the last two decades", which could be harmed. That, according to the statement by the eight former US officials, would "threaten the security of Israel, Palestinians, friendly Arab states and undermine US interests in the Middle East". Additionally, Israel's head of internal security warned that Netanyahu's settlement policy could invite a new explosion. Moreover, the president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Rabbi Eric Yoffie said in Los Angeles last December that Netanyahu's decisions on settlements are especially "troubling" due to the expected increase proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region.

## Netanyahu's response

Netanyahu's response to his recalcitrant critics has been characteristically arrogant. It is not, nor Israel who must change policies: "the policy of this government is to strengthen settlement...these are natural needs and necessary growth." That was Israel's policy under Rabin and Peres, resulting in the growth of West Bank and Gaza settlements by 49 percent during the past four years under their rule. According to *Report on Israeli Settlements* November 1996, the population in annexed East Jerusalem grew by 33 percent during the same period, while more than 100 settlements increased their population.

The difference between the two governments relates more to public relations than to substance. Netanyahu's approach is to be up-front and abrasive rather than defensive and wary. It is not dissimilar to a Genghis-like style, which eventually lost out to Clinton's illusive yet more appealing approach. He feels impelled to disguise or finesse Israel colonization or to deny that the interim phase and the final settlement are one and the same. Hence, virtually all the final status issues, Colonization equals freedom of movement for Jews anywhere in the "land of Israel." It is manifest destiny, which Americans, of all people, are expected to understand given their mid-Western historical legacy.

The Likud's statement on settlements makes no attempt to hide the fact of non-negotiability: the settlements population would simply have their National Priority A status restored in order to "reinstate social and economic parity between (them) and other developing areas of the country." What is illegal under international law is thus turned on its head and transformed to a higher moral purpose: to prevent discrimination between post-1967 and pre-1967 settlers. The government's statement makes clear that post-1967 settlements have effectively been annexed, since the "corrective action" will grant them benefits similar to those enjoyed by settlers in what became Israel proper after 1948—the Negev and

## Middle East Beat

by Khairi Janbel

## Arafat and Turkey

IT WAS an impressive sight, to see Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat being received by Turkish president Suleyman Demirel in a ceremony awarded in heads of states. Despite a minor protocol incident involving saluting flags at the airport, the trip came at a crucial time for rallying support to the impending final status negotiations between the Palestinians and Israel.

It is a crucial time also for Turkey, as the confrontation between Mr Erbakan's Refah Party and the supporters of secularism intensifies in the streets of the country. Amidst presidential unease, military nervousness, and Refah's assurances of adhering to the Turkish constitution, Arafat steps into the caldron of Turkey's political cooks, and Turkey's worsening diplomatic relations with Iran over the most important common denominator of all, the status of Jerusalem.

It may seem a little strange that the recent battle of words over Jerusalem started in Turkey, but even more dangerous, is Refah's involvement in this issue. One cannot accuse Mr Erbakan of Pan-Islamism, nor with pan-Islamism, but in attempting to fulfill his party's Islamic political duty, he declares to Mr Arafat that, the question of Jerusalem is not just a Palestinian affair, but rather a matter for the whole Islamic world. In doing so, Mr Erbakan has committed his party's contradictions, which stem from Turkey's socio-economic contradictions to the already complex problem of the future status of Jerusalem. Mr Arafat, consequently, has to be extremely careful in avoiding to carry an extra heap of problems, that adds to the already existing ones within the Arab world.

Into this affair, diplomatic relations between Turkey and Iran have taken a plunge over Jerusalem. It was on "Jerusalem Day", the annual occasion organized by the Iranian state structures, that in Sincan/Turkey, the Turkish speaking Iranian Ambassador and beneath the portraits of Imam Khomeini, and Sadr, he called on the Turkish government to institutionalize the *Sharia* in Turkey, and with the various manifestations of support for Hamas in mock demonstrations in front of a model of the Dome of the Rock, with slogans denouncing Israel as well as Mr Arafat and the peace process.

Ironically, Sincan is a municipality supported by the Refah Party, but which Refah Party in this case? The Refah that supports PNA legitimacy as the sole representative of the Palestinian people, or that, which denounces Mr Arafat in person and does not believe in coexistence with Israel?

For Mr Arafat, it is an act of walking the tight-rope between Turkish internal contradictions and the added dimension of Iranian challenge. Undoubtedly, both Turkey and Iran, are important partners in our region and have a great role to play, they have also the added advantage of being Islamic countries which works to Mr Arafat's advantage. Nevertheless, extra care and prudence must be applied, for the issue of Jerusalem must not fall prey to the political rivalries between Iran and Turkey, and their particular and divergent religious stands.

How is Mr Arafat to fair amongst the rambling of tanks in Sincan, the slogans for the implementation of *Sharia*, the denunciation of Israel and the peace treaty, the uneasy secular president, and the ever present Iranian position? More importantly, Mr Arafat must do a proper assessment of what he will be taking on board with his recent visit to Ankara, and perhaps question the need of expanding the Jerusalem issue under the current regional circumstances. ■



The Arafat trade mark! PNA leader Yasser Arafat kisses Russian President Boris Yeltsin on the forehead prior to their talks in Moscow last week. Mr Arafat was on a two-day visit to the Russian capital Moscow.

## The Star

Jordan's political, economic and cultural weekly

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## Foreign Exchange

	Buy 3M	Sell 3M
US \$	0.7850	0.7850
£	1.1432	1.1432
DM	0.4152	0.4152
Sfr	0.4772	0.4772
FRF	0.1231	0.1231
YEN (100)	0.5678	0.5678
DEL	0.3659	0.3659
LIT (100)	0.0421	0.0421

## SATURDAY

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**Middle East Beat**  
by Khairi Janbek  
**Arafat and Turkey**

## Business scene

Jordan and foreign investors are willing to carry out tourism enterprises in Aqaba by building hotels on the northern and southern coasts at a cost of JD 180 million.

The northern investments in the southern coast are about JD 120 million that are financed by the Zira Investment Group, an English investor and Net-Tour.

Hotels to be built on the northern coast will cost JD 60 million, financed by Zira and the Social Security Corp., to be given later to Inter-Continental.

These projects were given licenses and some have started with infrastructure tenders, others are being carried out. In the same place, a tourism village (with an area of 100 dunums) and three restaurants are given licenses.

Foreign reserves by the Central Bank of Jordan shot up to \$800 million in 1996. This is double the 1995 figure of only \$400 million, according to Michel Mario, the deputy governor of the CBJ.

Mario expected these reserves to reach one billion by the end of this year. This is attributed to the Bank's monetary strategy which increased confidence in the dinar and encouraged clients to convert their savings from the dollar to the dinar.

Last week, the Bank received \$40 million in financial aid from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help Jordan in its economic reform program and reinforce its reserves. The Fund is expected to provide Jordan also with \$11 million, so the CBJ reserves increase to \$800 million, the highest in many years.

The National Aluminium Industry Co., has signed an agreement with a Lebanese trading and industrial concern to export processed aluminium for Lebanon at \$2 million for this year. The firm will be responsible for distributing products of Jordanian aluminium to the Lebanese market.

The first shipment of the company's products worth \$2 million will be exported to Palestinian markets according to an agreement concluded earlier with Palestine Aluminium Industries Co., according to the deputy of the company's director, Hashim Al Haj Hassan.

Although the National Aluminium Company was established eight months ago, its products high standards quality enabled it to promote its production inside and outside the Kingdom.

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Foreign Exchange Wednesday, 26 February		
	Buy JD	Sell JD
US\$	0.7080	0.7100
DM	1.1432	1.1489
DM	0.4152	0.4173
DM	0.4772	0.4796
DM	0.1231	0.1237
DM	0.5678	0.5706
DM	0.3699	0.3717
DM	0.0421	0.0423

# Jordanian economists applaud PSE but stresses caution

By Ilham Sadeq  
Star Staff Writer

HOPING TO launch a new era of stability towards real economic growth, the Palestine National Authority has recently approved the establishment of the Palestine Securities Exchange (PSE) which started a one month introductory phase of share trading February 18.

The director general of the Amman Financial Market (AFM), Wahib Al Shaer, told *The Star* "I am very happy that the Palestine securities exchange started operation in Nablus. I wish it all success for two reasons: one nationalistic and the other is that the affairs it would have on the Amman Financial Market (AFM)."

The success of the Palestinian stock market will help the AFM to develop further and attract more foreign investors, according to Al Shaer. He clarifies that this would be due to the availability of a larger number of quoted companies in the two markets which are close to each other.

He stressed that he would be willing to cooperate and indeed coordinate with the management of the Palestinian stock market.

Moreover, the PSE and AFM are members of the same economy and this makes them in a better position to attract foreign investors.

Jordanian investors and businessmen are satisfied with the establishment of a securities market on the West Bank and do not hesitate to express their enthusiasm for such a step.

Dr Fahad Al Fanek, a Jordanian economic expert described it as a good start for the development of market economy in the West Bank and provides greater incentives by Palestinian and Jordanian investors to pump their capitals into the market.

The importance of the existence of such bourse indicates that the Palestine National Authority is firmly committed to a free market option during this stage, according to Al Fanek.

However such optimism is coupled with caution, some bankers in Jordan continue to feel anxious. They say that it is not easy to identify the features of the coming stage in stock trading at PSE. They stress that it might be still risky to invest in a market because of the economic and political instability that prevails because of the Israeli occupation.

Adnan Al Sullakh, general manager of the Export and Finance Bank said that the establishment of the exchange was a very important step although he would not commit himself at this present stage. He said that the political situation is still uncertain.

But a slightly different point of view is provided by Al Fanek. He says that in spite of the difficult economic circumstances, the PSE has had a good start. He added that it would be better to start at the present level and work themselves upwards to enhance their performance and that of the Palestinian economy.

There are four brokerage firms that are given licenses to trade in the fully automated system bourse, hoping to help attract long-term investments from Palestinian expatriates who work abroad.

The stock exchange is equipped with the very latest in technology and computerization. Critics particularly Israeli have said that there is a disequilibrium between the latest technology and the level of development of the Palestinian economy suggesting that both would not be compatible. However, this is hotly denied by the Palestine Securities Exchange General Manager, Safwan Batnina who says that the market is there to help in the development of the economy and encourage Palestinian investors.

Meanwhile, dealers and brokerage firms at the AFM show great enthusiasm in the Palestinian Stock Market where about 60 shareholding companies are expected to be enlisted by the end of this year.



Computer engineering: Only the very best in computing would suffice the PSE

After the Hebron deal was forged between PNA and Israel, the general sense of insecurity and uncertainty was reduced on AFM, although the problems have not been completely solved, Al Shaer said.

However, despite the short-term uncertainty in some quarters, people on the whole believe that the establishment of the PSE would lead to greater economic stability, something which would certainly positively affect the economic climate in Jordan.

## Palestinian bourse is widely seen as start of prosperous era

AMMAN (Star)—A Symbol of Palestinian economic development, the Palestine Securities Exchange opened its doors last week in an exuberant mood. First day trading in the \$2 million bourse started in high spirits as optimism prevailed in the market. This could be seen as the first effective step to rebuild a conflict-ridden Palestinian economy.

"This is an exciting moment," said the Palestine Securities Exchange General Manager Safwan Batnina, who promised to publish a market index, to be called the Jerusalem Index, soon after the completion of the new market's introductory phase. "In fact, I can see my wife in the background shedding a drop or two of tears."

In the first phase, the bourse will only trade one day a week. However this has not dampened optimism.

"The stock exchange is a very good instrument for the economy at large," said Palestinian National Authority Minister of Economy and Trade Maher Massi.

Only 23 companies are presently listed on the stock exchange, but this number will soon expand. Officials estimate that as many as 60 joint-stock companies from the West Bank and Gaza, with a combined market capitalization of some \$700 million could be listed by the end of the year. The mood is buoyant as officials say that the market capitalization could reach as high as \$2 billion by the year 2000.

This is still some time to go. However the kind of companies that are presently listed range from the new Palestinian Telephone Company, to a large cigarette factory, to pharmaceutical firms, insurance companies and financial service businesses.

Although a private initiative, one of the main reasons for the setting up of the Palestinian bourse is to attract Palestinian external investment.

Mr Batnina says the stock exchange will attract foreign



capital to help Palestinian development, and will mobilize Palestinian capital, at home and abroad, helping to drive economic growth and giving ordinary Palestinians the opportunity to share in that growth.

He adds that the Palestinian economy has a large number of publicly traded companies—considering its size—and that it needed a stock exchange to organize and regulate stock trading.

The exchange is also designed to protect investors by screening companies for financial stability and requires public disclosure of relevant information. He says the Palestinian Finance Ministry will supervise the exchange's operations, but it is a privately-held company and he is determined to see that the main factors in play on the exchange are supply and demand.

However, despite the optimism others are more cautious. They said that while they support the exchange's establishment, the current political and social climate may dissuade potential investors from buying stocks. "I can't predict if the stock market will suc-

ceed or fail," said Mohammed Masrouji—who is chairman of Jerusalem Pharmaceuticals, National Insurance Co., and Palestine Investment and Development Co., three of the 23 companies that are listed on the exchange for trading. "It all depends on the political situation in Palestine, which is not stable."

But other experts said the bourse's success depends on a formidable amount of yet-to-be-seen factors, including the number of companies to be traded, the volume of investments, legislation regarding transparency, availability of financial instruments, trading regulations, access to real-time information networks, as well as investors who will get the market rolling.

Also, mixed reactions have been coming in from Israeli business analysts. Tel Aviv Stock Exchange managing director Sam Bronfeld said the exchange could help jumpstart the Palestinian economy. "It will contribute to the Palestinian economy in the form of growth and investment," he said, adding that Nablus could end up serving as an alternative to the establish-

ment of a second house in Tel Aviv.

The new market could solve problems similar to those that a second stock market here would be designed to alleviate, mainly by providing small and new companies with a capital-enlistment tool, Bronfeld said.

While the Palestinian bourse may serve as a channel for Israeli companies to raise capital, Yossi Nirzani of the Israeli consultancy firm Economic Models recommends that the Palestinians search for less riskier firms, at least in the first stage.

"It is important to gain the public's confidence in the market by listing companies with a good track record," said Nirzani, who previously served as head of the Tel Aviv stock exchange. "I don't think it is a good idea for the Palestinian bourse to be dependent on high-risk, high-technology and start-up companies."

The one-trading session per week will last for the first month of operation to give securities firms and investors the time to become better acquainted with the procedures and requirements of the stock exchange.

## World Bank overhaul proposed; staff cuts likely

By Paul Blustein

WASHINGTON—World Bank President James D. Wolfensohn has proposed to the bank's board a major initiative for revitalizing the 50-year-old institution by making it less bureaucratic and out of touch with the poor nations that borrow from it.

Under the initiative, dubbed "The Strategic Compact," the bank's 180 member nations would authorize the spending of \$250 million over two years on training, staff transfers and information systems, according to documents released by the bank last week.

But the bank's management is vowing to make the institution considerably more lean and efficient at the end of those two years. The documents, while stressing that no specific target for job reductions has been set, said that "the best estimate we have is a range of 500-700 separations over (fiscal years) 97-99." The bank employs about 10,000 people worldwide.

The initiative marks the most comprehensive and detailed effort by the Australian-born Wolfensohn to put his stamp on the bank since he took the helm in June 1995, vowing to transform it. The bank, which lends more than \$20 billion a year to the governments of developing countries for projects such as roads, schools, health care and the establishment of stock markets, has been beset for years by complaints that those projects too often fail to achieve their goals.

The move comes at a time when the bank is under strong pressure from its No. 1 donor, US Congress, which has refused in recent years to fully fund Washington's contribution to the bank's affiliate that provides loans at zero interest in the world's poorest countries.

The proposal for the \$250 million up-front "investment," which would add about 11 percent to the bank's budget over



Wolfensohn

the next two years, may rattle congressional critics.

But Clinton administration officials voiced optimism that lawmakers will react favorably to the prospect of staff cuts. "Ultimately, this should make Congress happier," said one official.

In remarkably frank language, the bank documents acknowledged that the bank's survival may be at stake if it fails to improve its effectiveness. "The alternative to the renewal program is not employment stability for all, but rather gradually eroding job security for all," the documents said.

The bank "has not done enough" to keep pace with trends sweeping the developing world, the documents said, including the massive increase in private investments flowing into Third World countries. "Demand for our lending is flat; there are complaints about our slowness and bureaucracy; there has been underinvestment in our staff and technical expertise... in short, our effectiveness has been declining."

One bank official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said many members of the staff are reacting with predictable anxiety to the "compact" and other major management changes recently introduced by Wolfensohn.

Most of the bank's manage-

ment positions below the rank of vice president have been effectively put up for grabs, with no presumption in favor of the incumbent job holders, so many bank staffers don't know where their horses are likely to be in coming months.

But the official said the "compact" is important because "it's the first time that a president of the bank since (Robert S.) McNamara (who ran the bank from 1968 to 1981) has gone to the board and said, 'Guys, if you want us to do our business better, you have to pay an up-front cost in terms of a capital expenditure.'"

The bank has undergone some wrenching reorganizations since the explosive growth during McNamara's presidency, notably a much-criticized downsizing and reshuffling of the management structure in 1987 that left the staff deeply demoralized.

But the bank official said many employees are hopeful that Wolfensohn's proposal will generate more enthusiasm because it is aimed not only at efficiency but also at positive goals such as hiring the bank up to date with poor countries' changing needs.

The bank is still filled with staffers who were hired when the bank was primarily in the business of lending money to governments for the construction of major infrastructure projects such as bridges and power stations.

Now that private investments are widely available for such projects, even in poor countries, the bank needs new types of experts—in privatization, for example, or the development of financial markets. Moreover, bank officials acknowledge that they need social scientists who are expert in making projects work better by gaining the support and participation of villagers and slum dwellers.

LA Times-Washington Post News Service

## MARKET WATCH

22-25 February

Highest and lowest performing stocks in the Amman Financial Market

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
<div><div>↑</div><div>%</div><div>5.05 3.33 3.31</div><div>↓</div></div> <div>↑ Arab Banking Corp. ↑ Middle East &amp; Comm. Bank ↑ Woolen Industries</div>	<div><div>↑</div><div>%</div><div>3.33 3.28 3.01</div><div>↓</div></div> <div>↑ Nayzak Dis. and Molds ↑ National Securities ↑ Woolen Industries</div>	<div><div>↑</div><div>%</div><div>3.39 2.58 2.22</div><div>↓</div></div> <div>↑ Livercock &amp; Poultry ↑ Jordan French Insurance ↑ Arab Financial Investment</div>	<div><div>↑</div><div>%</div><div>1.85 1.71 1.77</div><div>↓</div></div> <div>↑ National Plasti. ↑ Arab Paper Manufacturing ↑ Jordan Islamic Bank</div>
<div><div>↑</div><div>%</div><div>5.08 3.85 3.10</div><div>↓</div></div> <div>↑ National Insurance ↑ JIMCO ↑ Waden Industries</div>	<div><div>↑</div><div>%</div><div>4.41 4.00 3.98</div><div>↓</div></div> <div>↑ International Tourism ↑ JIMCO ↑ Lami Transportation Union</div>	<div><div>↑</div><div>%</div><div>5.22 5.03 5.05</div><div>↓</div></div> <div>↑ Middle East Bank ↑ Middle East Bank ↑ Universal Food Industry</div>	<div><div>↑</div><div>%</div><div>4.69 4.49 4.35</div><div>↓</div></div> <div>↑ Jordan Int'l Trade Center ↑ Jordan Gold Bank ↑ JIMCO</div>
<hr/>			
General Price Pointer		157,130	157,170
Trade Volume		842,100	937,972
Stock Volume		553,417	598,651
<hr/>			
Highest Traded Stocks		10451	151620
↑ Jordan National Bank (22961)		↑ Arab Bank	↑ Arab Bank

All data provided by ACCESS Tel: 646868 Fax: 646949

## Air routes likely to stiffen because of proposed BA, American Airlines deal

THE PROPOSED alliance between British Airways and American Airlines, two of the industry's largest players, has raised significant controversy and prompted a fierce debate both within and outside the industry. This has centred on the crucial question of whether it would hinder the further development of competition, and thus have deleterious effects on air travellers.

British Midland is not currently a transatlantic carrier. As such, it will not be directly affected by the proposed route partnership, except in that American Airlines (like United) is an important British Midland code-share partner.

However, considerations by interested regulatory authorities have altered British Midland's essentially neutral position.

British Midland has always been concerned that, in their efforts to ensure adequate competition is provided to British Airways/American Airlines at London Heathrow, regulators would seek to amend existing UK and EU slot allocation rules to favour new transatlantic services. This would be entirely unacceptable. However, British Midland accepts as valid the Office of Fair Trading's opinion that 168 slots should be given over by British Airways entirely to transatlantic competitors.

But OFT's view has been challenged by the EU's Competition Commissioner, Karel van Miert. The basis of his argument—which British Midland and, ironically, BA support—is that one cannot consider the Heathrow-North America market in isolation.

London's airports are part of a larger European air system, deriving their passengers not simply from the South East of England, but also from the rest of the UK, across Western Europe, and indeed from further afield.

He has proposed that the British Airways deal could only be approved by the EU on competition grounds if significantly more Heathrow slots were to be given up. British Midland believes that, in the light of this argument, it would be both illogical and unacceptable for all of the slots in addition to the 168 identified by the UK regulatory authorities to be similarly handed over to transatlantic competitors.

Commissioner van Miert argues that, essentially, London Heathrow has become the pre-eminent European airport

for transatlantic air customers. As such, links to Heathrow from other points in Europe are crucially important.

Leaving these links with far less competition than would then prevail on transatlantic routes, would not only be bad for intra-European travellers, but would also undermine Marwan Miert's pursuit of effective transatlantic competition.

British Midland's view is that, as Heathrow is part of a European system, a proportion of any slots over and above the 168 identified by the OFT need to be made available to carriers providing more competitive links between European points and London.

Thus competition would be enhanced both in Europe and across the Atlantic.



# Den Xiaoping, dead at 92, lead China into an era of economic growth

WASHINGTON—Deng Xiaoping, who died last Wednesday of complications from Parkinson's disease and a lung infection at age 92, led China out of the chaos and isolation of Communist rule under Mao Zedong into a new era marked by rapid economic growth. Deng maintained the rigid Communist political system but opened the world's most populous nation to the influence of Western capitalism and culture. A blunt man of action who survived wars and fierce power struggles by placing pragmatism over politics, Deng was regarded by admirers and critics alike as China's "last emperor"—the last of his generation of revolutionary leaders to hold paramount power.

However, his power never equaled that of Mao, the founder and longtime ruler of Communist China. Deng's prestige declined in his later years because of spreading official corruption, inequalities entrenched in the Communist system, and the crackdown he mandated in June 1989 against student-led protesters in Beijing's Tiananmen Square.

In the end, Deng's sweeping initiatives, aimed at decentralizing control over the economy and replacing state planning with a market-oriented system, left the economy only half reformed. Those who follow him face the enormous, risky task of completing the job.

In his later years, Deng was the first among equals of Communist Party elders who shared power as members of an octogenarian oligarchy, overseeing the work of younger leaders. He formally retired from his last government post in 1990 but continued to influence important domestic and foreign policy decisions through his prestige and personal connections, which included close ties with many of China's military leaders.

After becoming a Communist while living in France in the early 1920s, Deng never relinquished his belief in Communist ideology. But he was always less dogmatic than Mao. Deng's pragmatism allowed him essentially to redefine Marxism to make productivity—rather than the class struggle championed by Mao—the key measure of success.

A famous quotation attributed to Deng summed up his philosophy: "It doesn't matter if a cat is black or white as long as it catches mice."

Deng cautioned against the "worship" of capitalism but believed China could modernize only by adopting new technologies from the West. To that end, he opened diplomatic relations with the United States, concluded a peace treaty with Japan and oversaw an agreement with Britain for Hong Kong's return to Chinese control this year. He also sent Chinese to study abroad, including tens of thousands to the United States.

Still, despite his flexibility in economic matters, Deng was a hard-liner about politics throughout his life. Thus, when he rose to power in December 1978—winning a power struggle that followed Mao's death in 1976—Deng began to liberalize the economy while at the same time preserving China's Soviet-style political framework. He strongly defended the Chinese Communist Party's monopoly on power.

Nevertheless, an unintended consequence of Deng's opening to the rest of the world was that along with foreign capital came an infiltration of Western political and social ideas. This ultimately led to the most precarious period for the government under his rule—the massive demonstrations for democracy and the army crackdown on protesters in the spring of 1989.

These demonstrations found their focal point at Beijing's vast Tiananmen Square, where many tens of thousands of people gathered in an anti-government rally that grew over several days. Deng and his allies saw the protest as a direct challenge to their authority. Their response was a brutal crackdown with tanks and troops that left hundreds dead—and changed the tenor of China's relationship with the rest of the world.

To crush the democracy movement, Deng joined forces with rival leaders who questioned the scope, pace and side effects of his economic reforms—and who feared that those changes would destroy the party's political control. The following months saw furious infighting over the implementation of some of the economic changes. After months in seclusion, Deng surfaced and successfully urged the party leadership to speed the pace of reform.

One of Deng's greatest failures was his inability to provide for an orderly transition of power that would guarantee continuation of his reforms. Two of Deng's designated successors, Hu Yaobang and Zhao Ziyang, were ousted from power in 1987 and 1989, respectively, as a result of Deng's criticisms and pressure from more orthodox leaders. Deng once described Hu and Zhao as "pillars" holding up the sky.

At several points in his long and often career, Deng was forced to retreat and compromise. In the mid-1960s, he agreed to make a humiliating self-criticism in which he confessed to departing from the socialist economic parameters set out by Mao. The doctrine Mao purged Deng twice and allowed him to be attacked by radical Red Guards during the tumultuous Cultural Revolution of 1966-76. But Deng's ability and tenacity made him indispensable in Mao, who turned to him to reestablish order and stability when the Cultural Revolution ended.

Despite his reputation as tough and demanding, Deng impressed many who met him as plain, unassuming and even self-deprecating. During a luncheon in Washington in January 1979, he joked that Time magazine may have made a mistake in twice naming him its Man of the Year.

In a crisis, however, Deng proved to be extraordinarily self-confident and unflinching. It was Deng, through his clout with the army, who marshaled troops from all over China during the Tiananmen crisis of 1989 and then showed no sign of remorse over the bloodshed.

According to Lucian W. Pye, a political scientist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who has studied Deng's personality, Deng's displays of anger were controlled and precisely directed. He gained a reputation for service over the years. Pye said, as the party's "pit bull"—the man called upon to denounce wrongdoers or lead attacks in the Sino-Soviet dispute.

Deng married three times. His first wife, Zhang Xiyuan, one of his schoolmates from Moscow, died when she was 24, a few days after giving birth to Deng's first child, a baby girl who also died. His second wife, Jin Weiyang, left him after he came under political attack in 1933.

His third wife, Zhuo Lin, was the daughter of an industrialist in Yunnan Province.

She became a member of the Communist Party in 1938, and a year later married the veteran Red Army man in front of Mao's cave dwelling in Yan'an.

She and Deng had three daughters and two sons: daughter Deng Lin, a painter, born in 1941; son Deng Pufang, a paraplegic who heads China's Disabled Persons Federation, born in 1944; daughter Deng Nan, deputy minister of the State Science and Technology Commission, born in 1945; daughter Niao Rong, who wrote a biography of her father and became his personal assistant in the last years of his life, born in 1950; and son Deng Zhilong, born in 1951, who earned a PhD in physics at the University of Rochester and is involved in property development and investment.

Whereas Mao's birthplace in Henan Province was turned into a much-visited monument, Deng's childhood home in Sichuan Province was kept almost secret for many years. When foreign journalists were permitted to visit the site in 1985, they found a large 10-room farmhouse with stucco walls surrounded by rice paddies and tall stalks of bamboo.

Deng was the eldest son of a landlord who owned about 25 acres of land, a huge tract compared with the small plots farmed by most Chinese peasants today.

In 1920, at age 16, Deng traveled to France on a work-study program. During his

five-year stay, he worked in shoe and automobile factories and joined a branch of the Chinese Communist Youth League organized by Zhou Enlai. Deng's mentor and a future premier of China, Deng helped edit and mimeograph a Communist youth magazine and became known within secretive party circles as the "doctor of duplication."

After a brief period of study in Moscow, Deng returned to China in 1926, taught in a military academy and worked in the Communist Party underground in Shanghai. He later helped implement Mao's plans to deploy rural guerrillas in a protracted struggle, rather than fight in cities, against Chiang Kai-shek's Kuomintang forces.

Mao's opponents in the Communist leadership initially overruled Mao on the tactic and accused both Mao and Deng of defeatism. But Kuomintang attacks forced the Communists to halt their internal battles and unite in the Long March to the northwest of China.

From 1934-35, the Red Army embarked on perhaps history's longest retreat in terms of time and distance. During a 6,000-mile march across China, Mao emerged as the top leader of both the party and the military, and Deng as a high-level political commissar. At the same time, Deng became a close confidant of Mao.

The troops with which Deng served fought the Japanese occupation forces from 1937 to 1945 and, in one of the world's bloodiest civil wars, the Nationalists from 1945 to 1949. In 1948-49, Deng helped organize a military campaign that contributed heavily to the Communists' victory.

In 1952, Deng was appointed a deputy premier, and by 1956 he had joined the inner circle of the party's top leadership. He traveled to Moscow that year and witnessed Nikita Khrushchev's denunciation of the late Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin. But Deng, like Mao, disapproved of Khrushchev's de-Stalinization campaign. In 1959, Deng emerged as a forceful critic of Soviet "revisionism" and in 1960 led the Chinese attack on Khrushchev at a meeting in Moscow of international Communist parties.

After Mao's disastrous Great Leap Forward economic plan, Deng and Mao's designated successor, President Liu Shaoqi, attempted to rebuild the economy through pragmatic, market-oriented policies that foreshadowed the economic reforms initiated by Deng more than a decade later. But Mao came to suspect that Deng and Liu were undermining his control and plans to collectivize agriculture.

With the opening shots of Mao's Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, which pitted radical Red Guards against members of the party hierarchy, Mao ousted Deng and Liu from power in 1966. Deng was forced to confess that he had adopted the "capitalist reactionary line."

Mao complained that for several years, Deng never bothered to consult him and, in a snub, deliberately sat far from Mao at meetings and with Deng's deaf right ear turned toward the chairman. He accused Deng of attempting to set up an independent power base in the party secretariat.

In later years, while praising the deceased chairman for his role in founding the People's Republic of China, Deng criticized Mao for a leadership style that Deng called feudal, patriarchal and out of touch with reality.



Deng (above) on a vacation in France in 1988.



Bygone memories! Deng with Mao Tse Tung attending a party congress in 1958.

Mao seemed at times to admire Deng and at times to mistrust him. In the 1960s, as if in warning, Mao pointed out Deng to Khrushchev. "See that little man over there?" Mao asked the Soviet premier. "He is highly intelligent."

Mao also said of his eventual successor: "Deng is a rare talent. He is like a needle wrapped in cotton. ... His mind is round, and his actions are square."

After the purge of 1966, Deng was out of power for seven years. From 1969 to 1973, he lived through some of his most difficult moments. While he was spared the severe punishment meted out to Liu, who died a sick and broken man in 1969 after being imprisoned and denied medical aid, Deng was forced for more than two years to live in internal exile in southern China, quartered in an abandoned two-story house under armed guard.

Deng and his wife spent their days in a tractor factory, where Deng worked as a machine parts fitter. Their son Deng Pufang, persecuted and beaten by Red Guards, attempted to commit suicide by jumping out of a window; denied medical treatment for a broken spine, he was paralyzed from the waist down.

Deng was then rehabilitated only to be purged again in 1976. This last ouster was triggered, ironically, by what has become known as the first Tiananmen Incident of April 1976. Workers, students and citizens of Beijing had gathered in Tiananmen Square to mourn the death of Premier Zhou Enlai. When the authorities, led by radical leaders known as the "Gang of Four," tried to disperse the assembly, pent-up resentment against Mao's repressive policies began to take form in speeches and posters.

Hundreds of protesters were arrested, many were branded counterrevolutionaries, and Deng was stripped of power for allegedly supporting the demonstration.

In September 1976, Mao died. Within weeks, members of the ultra-leftist Gang of Four, headed by Mao's widow, Jiang Qing, were purged and arrested.

In July 1977, Deng made his first public appearance since his second fall from power and again was reinstated.

Using the tactics of war and party maneuvering honed over the course of decades, Deng isolated Mao's designated successor, Hua Guofeng. Without formally removing him from office, Deng eased Hua out of power.

By late 1978, Deng was able to tighten his grip on the party, government and army. He began to place his successors in positions of power and launched the reforms that have led to China's recent stunning economic growth.

Deng's first big success after taking power was achieved in China's countryside, where about 70 percent of Chinese live. Deng and his reformist colleagues abandoned the Stalinist and Maoist emphasis on heavy industry, instead placing more stress on decentralization and the development of agriculture and light industry.

In the late 1970s, Deng dismantled agricultural communes, allowed renewal of semi-private farm plots and permitted peasants to sell a portion of their output at markets. Agricultural production tripled as a result but leveled off, along with farmers' incomes, in the late 1980s.

LA Times-Washington Post News Service

By Rone Tempest

BEIJING—In the final years of his life, Deng Xiaoping, following the ancient tradition of the emperors, ruled China indirectly.

After resigning his chairmanship of the powerful Military Affairs Commission in 1989, Deng's only remaining official titles were honorary chairman of the Soong Ching-ling Foundation, a charity group, and most-honorary chairman of the Chinese Bridge Association.

Yet until his death he continued to be the pre-eminent power in China, the "paramount leader" of 1.2 billion people, a man whose every word and gesture were weighed and analyzed as a cryptic signal of enormous national significance.

"Since Deng Xiaoping did not operate as a public figure in the open," wrote Lucian W. Pye, professor emeritus of Chinese studies at the Massachusetts Institute

## No clear successor to Deng among China's power elite

of Technology, "people had to assume that his greatness lay in his ability to manipulate events from behind the scenes, much like a puppeteer."

In such a setting, where real power is not necessarily linked to an impressive title, divining Deng's possible successor is difficult.

As Deng's physical condition deterio-

rated in his last years, six names came up repeatedly in speculation about possible successors:

■ Jiang Zemin, 70. He is nominally at the apex of China's power triangle—general secretary of the Communist Party, chairman of the Central Military Commission and president of the country. Deng called him the "core" of China's third generation of Communist leadership.

Jiang vaulted to the top from the relatively obscure post of Shanghai party chief in 1989, just weeks after the army assault on Tiananmen Square.

When he first came to the national stage, many believed that he would be only an interim figure in the post-Deng era because he had little support among the military and the party rank and file. But he has had nearly eight years to consolidate his power, appoint his key aides to leadership slots and promote military officers loyal to him.

■ Qiao Shi, 72. With ties to both reformist and conservative wings, Qiao has risen to increasing prominence in recent years, and, behind Jiang, is widely considered to be the second most likely leader to succeed Deng. As chairman of the National People's Congress, he has overseen some impressive reforms of the Chinese criminal code, making him a favorite among foreign diplomats.

Besides his position atop the National People's Congress, Qiao is a member of the party's Central Committee and chairman of the Central Committee for the Protection of Secrets.

Until 1993, Qiao was chief of China's secret police and overseas intelligence operations, with access to information not only about China's dissidents but also its rulers.

With his wide-ranging connections and relatively positive public image, Qiao is a

strong candidate for top leadership. Qiao controlled the 800,000-member paramilitary People's Armed Police force in 1989 but, according to a well-placed source, refused to issue bullets during the June 3-4 crackdown at Tiananmen Square.

■ Yang Shangkun, 90. He holds these honorary posts: head of the Leading Group for Party History Work, adviser to the Society for Studies on Party Members and president of the Table Tennis Association.

His lack of impressive titles does not preclude his playing a major role in a power struggle.

Yang previously was China's president and, more important, was first vice chairman of the Central Military Commission.

He was "retired" in late 1992, along with his half-brother Yang Baibing, then the military commission's secretary general. The Yangs were accused of trying to dominate the army to build a power base for the coming succession struggle, and since their exit many of their proteges have also been eased out of leadership.

He and his brother were believed to have played central roles in coordinating "Operation Tiananmen" in 1989, but recently Yang Shangkun has tried to distance himself from the decision to use troops to clear demonstrators from the square.

■ Wan Li, 80. Formerly the head of China's National People's Congress and member of the party's ruling Politburo, Wan now holds only ceremonial positions, the most important of which may be the head of the Chinese Bridge Association, whose most-honorary chairman was Deng. Wan was said to have been Deng's bridge partner and thus to have had direct access to China's top man.

Wan rose to power in the late 1970s, after he successfully pioneered experiments in

de-collectivizing agriculture in Anhui province in eastern China. Displaying genuine concern for rural problems and advocating gradual democratization, Wan gained broad popular support.

During the 1989 protests, students, intellectuals and even high-level party figures petitioned him to call an emergency session of the National People's Congress to revoke martial law and remove Li Peng from office.

Zhao, then head of the Communist Party, summoned Wan to Beijing from a trip to the United States, but Wan did not make it to the capital in time to influence events. He reportedly was held under house arrest in Shanghai until after the June 3-4 crackdown.

Some media reports in mid-1994 said that, despite this complication in his career, Wan was named by Deng as a senior adviser to be consulted during the post-Deng transition.

■ Li Peng, 68. He is a Soviet-trained engineer who was appointed China's premier in 1987 after liberal Hu Yaobang was ousted as party general secretary. Zhao was promoted to party chief succeeding Hu; Li replaced Zhao as premier. Since then, Li's political fortune has been made at the expense of party reformists. With the renewed economic reform drive of 1992, Li experienced some slippage.

Li's declaration of martial law in 1989 triggered widespread calls for the National People's Congress to remove him from office.

But Li is closely tied to the eldest of the revolutionary generation. At age 11, he was adopted by the great Chinese Communist leader Zhou Enlai. Every octogenarian's death diminishes him.

Many of Li's economic responsibilities were taken over by Vice Premier Zhu Rongji, a strong reformist, during the eco-

nom drive reopened in 1992. In the spring of 1993, Li suffered a heart attack and was relieved of more duties.

With economic doors opening in 1992 and money pouring in, many democracy activists more or less forgave Deng for the 1989 suppression of the Tiananmen movement. But few absolved Li.

■ Zhu Rongji, 68. Vice premier and former head of the central Peoples' Bank of China, Zhu is the party Standing Committee's strongest proponent of economic reform and the mastermind behind China's tax and financial reforms. Yet many of Zhu's proposals have been stubbornly resisted by provincial leaders, and Zhu is said to be the focus of hard-line enmity within the party. As resistance to the austerity aspects of the economic reforms has grown in recent years, Zhu's star has somewhat dimmed.

Like Jiang Zemin, Zhu was brought to Beijing from Shanghai in the aftermath of the Tiananmen crackdown in 1989.

As mayor of Shanghai during the democracy demonstrations, Zhu persuaded Shanghai protesters to leave the streets peacefully and had promised that he would not call in the army.

Zhu has support among Chinese students, intellectuals and party reformers, but is no Western-style human rights activist.

He was one of those who called for strict punishment of a Chinese reporter for a Hong Kong paper, who in 1993 was accused of leaking the interest-rate plans of the central bank. The reporter was sentenced to 12 years in prison for "stealing state secrets."

LA Times-Washington Post News Service



Jiang Zemin: The new breed of Chinese rulers





# Children paintings Exhibition Adding a little touch to the art scene in Jordan

By Anca de Maio  
Special to The Star

Encouraging artistic talent among the young is the main idea behind the exhibition of the drawings submitted to the Second Art Competition for Children. The event is organized by the Embassy of Poland in Amman in cooperation with the Goethe Institute and the Polish Women's Club, and opened last Monday with the official presentation of the winners and the awarding of prizes. The collection of 93 pictures drawn and painted by 60 children is on display in the exhibition hall of the Goethe Institute in Amman until 3 March.

The organizing committee's four-month work started last November with a radio announcement and a number of invitations posted at the Goethe Institute, the Hayati Center, the Orthodox Club and in such schools as the International Community School, the New American School and the Jubilee School, said Mr Grzegorz Jerzykowski, the first secretary in the Polish Embassy. "Although our initial idea, as materialized in our first Art Competition for Children in 1996, was to attract only the children of the Polish community in Jordan, this year we have extended our invitation to children from other circles," he underlined.

The two themes proposed this year, "The country of my parents" and "My dream

world," were common for all the four age groups of participants: under six years-old, from six to 10, from 10 to 14, and from 14 to 18 years-old.

"For reasons of space, the number of pictures by the same child was limited to two for each subject," explained the representative of the organizing committee, Mrs Yulita Taba from the Polish Embassy. Many children of mixed Jordanian-Polish families presented two drawings for the first subject, simply because they wanted to express their equal belonging to two countries and cultures.

Samira Abu Faraj, a three-prize winner in this competition, was happy to reveal her paternal origin by depicting a scene of bedouin life, as well as to reflect her Polish memories by illustrating the castles, churches and mountains of her mother country. "It is good to have the opportunity to do other things than to eat, sleep and go to school. A competition of this kind has made us feel important. Now I know that I have some talent and I'll improve it. Maybe I'll be an artist one day," said Samira.

The "dream world" theme was given fresh and colourful definitions by the children. These ranged from a sunny world inhabited by dinosaurs, butterflies, trees in blossom and children, to a mysterious "realm that does not exist" (Silvia Jaber, aged 17) or to an idealized European country like Switzerland.

Sincerity and originality characterize all the pictures in which children are encouraged to

● A cocktail reception and dinner hosted by Minister of Tourism Dr Saleh Ershadat at the Hotel InterContinental Jordan for a group of French tour operators and journalists was held on 17 February.

The French group, which was invited by the Ministry of Tourism to help promote Jordan as a tourist attraction in France. During the reception welcoming speeches were presented by the Dr Ershadat, President and Chief Executive Officer of Royal Jordanian, Mr Nader Al Thahaby and Mr Michael Nazzari.

The reception was also attended by local tour operators and other distinguished guests.



turn into forms and colors the things they dream about. "The main purpose of this contest was to give the children the opportunity to discover themselves by giving concrete representation of their inner feelings and ideas," pointed out a member of the jury, the painter and interior designer Ibrahim Shalabi. "At this age, this is more important than being discovered as potential future artists," he explained. "What our children need is to be given the attention they need in order to harmoniously develop their asserting personalities. Recruiting talents is important too, in the sense of encouraging children to become aware of their artistic abilities as well as of the importance of art in our lives," Mrs Taba added.

The sponsors of the competition, Mr Sameh Madaoui, Chairman of the Jordanian-Polish Friendship Association, Mr Samir Carmi, general manager of the Orthodox Club and Mrs. Hala Ayoubi, travel agent for LOT Polish Airlines in Jordan handed over 24 prizes and special diplomas to the most tal-

ented children to the winners of the first, second and third places in the four age groups. This was made in the presence of the representative of the Jordanian Ministry of Culture, Miss Wafa' Qsous, the Director of the Goethe Institute, Dr Dieter Glade, and the delegate of the Jordanian-Polish Friendship Association, Mr Mohammad Baderkhan. "The Polish Embassy offered six distinctions for such special achievements as originality, Polish features, 'high standards' and general cultural aspects," mentioned Mr Jerzykowski.

"The positive response and large interest shown by so many children to the present competition, encourages us to expand our invitation to the next similar event to every child in Jordan willing to show his feelings and artistic abilities," Mr Jerzykowski stressed. "Many ideas and suggestions for the coming competitions have already been formulated, but our final decision depends on the new cooperations we shall manage to establish with other cultural centres and foundations," he added.



● All the way from the United States, the Celebrant Singers, a choir, are giving a thrilling four-day performance in Amman. Starting today, Thursday 27 February, they will give a performance in the morning at the CMS, Al Ahliyah School for girls and in the evening at the Freire School. They will stay in Amman till 3 March and then go on to the United Arab Emirates as part of their world tour. The 25-member choir are a group of young professionals singers and musicians playing on various classical instruments. Mr Freddy Daoud of Freddy For Music, and being a member of the organizing committee for the group told The Star that this is a very good opportunity for Ammanites to enjoy listening to such high quality performances. The Celebrant Singers are also performing at the Marriott Hotel.

## Inter.Con holds party for its staff

THE ANNUAL staff party of the Hotel InterContinental Jordan was held last 16 February. The afternoon started off with the General Manager Mr Chawki Aynub awarding the Employees of the year for 1996 along with handing out service pins to long serving employees. This was followed by the latest play of Hisham and Nahil's "Amin Yahoo" after which dinner was served. The event ended with some games as well as a show by the resident singer Miss Rania Shahub and dancer Miss Huda Ahrabi.

The evening proved to be a great success and was enjoyed by all.



## Jergens appoints Intermarkets

THE ANDREW Jergens Company, a wholly-owned US subsidiary of Japan's Kao Corporation, has appointed Intermarkets Advertising as its advertising agency of record for the GCC region and Yemen.

Jergens, manufacturer of the world famous Jergens Lotion, was founded in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1992. Kao Corporation, considered to be one of the most innovative and technically advanced companies in the world, purchased the Jergens Company from American Brands Inc. in 1982.

Globally, Jergens manufactures and markets a range of skin care products that are differentiated on the basis of proprietary technology, and these products provide discernibly unique consumer benefits.

In his letter of appointment, David J. Hrovat, vice president of International sales of the Jergens Company, congratulated Intermarkets for the in-depth market knowledge and creative flair that came alive in a very compelling way at the presentation stage.

# Jordanian theater could now be going places

AMMAN (Star)—Jordanian theater is today experiencing mass revival. More theaters have been opened since the last Gulf war than ever before. Their fortunes however, had much to do with the closing of the Gulf markets than anything else. Gulf countries quite simply stopped buying television productions and serializations from Jordan.

And thus actors turned to the theater, with productions being churned out right, left and center. Having been in the doldrums for some time, this was an avenue for its revival. However, critics have tended to argue that the concept of a Jordanian theater is today somewhat elastic and is stretched according to the dictates of commercialism.

What we have is a plurality of theater and theatrical productions that are all geared towards pulling in the crowds. The theater of today is a mixed bag of miscellaneous willy-nilly topics ranging from satire and political comedy to the theater that draws on real life experiences. There is the Nabeel and Hisham theater, which produces a number of political comedies, the Nabeel Al Mashini Stage (currently producing the social comedy *Akash Y Disky*) and a handful of others.

That is fine people may say since this is the theater that is required, but the problem here, is its commercial overtones and the need to produce anything that is not above par. And people are saying that this should not happen

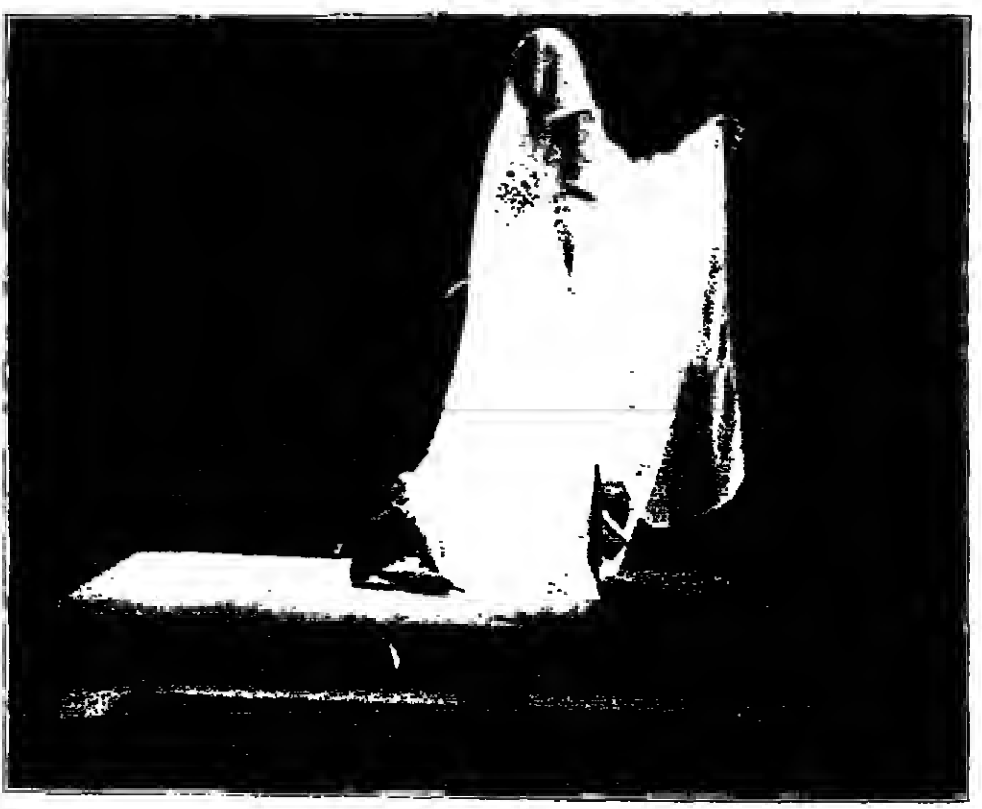
since Jordan theater has a tradition that goes back to the 1930s when the first play was ever performed in Jordan during the British mandate.

However, we could be accused of being over-critical. Nabeel Sawalha, an actor and originator of political comedy told the *Jordan News agency, Petra*, that the state of theater in this country is like the ones that exist in Arab countries which is searching for an identity. He points out that this is because most of the scripts are translated from other languages and it is one of the reasons why local audiences feel alienated, because the story line does not conform to Jordanian culture.

While this is one view, there are others who see the problem in terms of local script writers and playwrights. Writers of caliber are difficult to find. With quality writers must come quality scripts. Again here, there is a problem.

Lina Al Tal, head of the Theater-in-education program in the Noor Al Hussein Foundation says that actors and playwrights are themselves to blame for not taking more advantage of the democratic era we are living in. She added that the opportunities are there for everyone to express their opinions and produce better theater productions.

She pointed out that part of the problem is that there is no collective work in theater; there should be, for instance, greater coordination between the scriptwriters, directors, stage-set managers and design. This would mean greater professionalism. She added that what is



noticeable about Jordanian plays is that the writer is also the actor, the director and the costume designer.

So professionals in the business know that

there are deep-seated problems which can be overcome if only outside help was available. One way out could be the state to play a more active role in encouraging the arts.

## SCRAPBOOK

By Osama El-Sherif

### Creating superman

SCIENTISTS ARE making headway in genetic engineering and have lately cloned a sheep. In few years they may have the capability to clone humans. The possibilities resulting from such a scientific breakthrough are immense—and frightening as well. There are those who believe that just as it is possible to clone a genius like Einstein, by the same token the Iraqis might clone Saddam Hussein! The mere prospect of identical copies of Saddam Hussein being produced in special labs is sending shivers in Washington and London!

Like any technological achievement, there are always moral questions involved. The discovery of nuclear fusion promised unlimited cheap energy, but it also ushered in the age of the nuclear holocaust and "day after" scenarios. Likewise, research into biological and chemical engineering produced medical feats, saving in effect millions of lives, but they also gave the world chemical and germ warfare. The common denominator, it seems, is human nature and its propensity for destruction—culminating with self-destruction. For every step we make forward, as humans, towards discovery and exploration—the invention of the plane, invasion of space, discovery of laser are mere examples—we seem to open a window for evil to creep into our lives. Man's dream to fly brought the Stealth bomber, invasion of space almost gave birth to star wars and laser-guided missiles are now called smart bombs.

And so as much as cloning brings promise and hope to mankind: eradication of diseases and who knows may be even immortality (?), it also raises the spectre of evil finally asking these innovations and claiming them for itself. It would indeed be a novelty if scientists would one day succeed in pinpointing the source of evil in mankind and genetically erasing it. But that is not a realistic hope. Copying humans is!

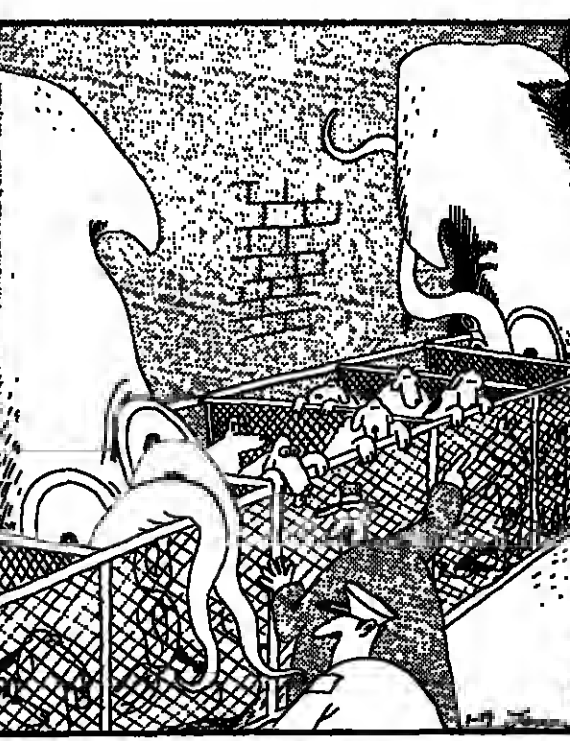
So while the West fears a hundred Saddams running around, a moral debate ensues in academic and scientific circles. How far should genetic research be allowed to continue? What are the moral benchmarks allowed and who will set them: the scientists themselves, politicians, financiers, the clergy?

And where does religion stand? Isn't this creation by proxy? Aren't we trespassing on God's domain: in effect changing the nature and purpose of divine creation?

There is no doubt in my mind that research and science will not be slowed down by moral and religious restrictions and inhibitions. And even if the road to scientific endeavors is paved with good intentions, there will be those who will harness these achievements and put them in the service of evil. So today it is sheep, tomorrow who knows: an American superman? ■

## THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"Oh! Wait! Wait! My mistake! ... That's him down there!"



Sumo temporaries



Saturday night at the crypt.



# Le Jourdain

Supplément en français du Star

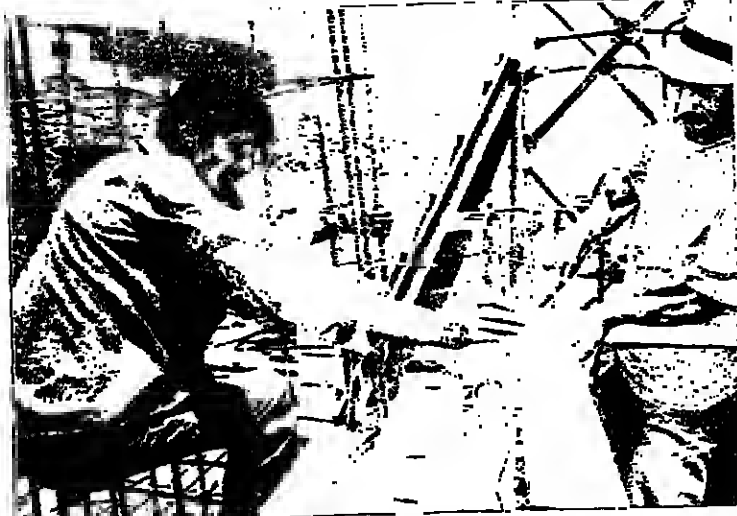
**M. Netanyahu et le roi Hussein discutent de Jérusalem**  
 ● Le Premier ministre israélien Benjamin Netanyahu, en visite dimanche à Amman (notre photo), a déclaré que «tous les plans de développement à Jérusalem concerneront aussi bien les quartiers arabes que les quartiers juifs».  
 Selon lui, un budget de 50 millions de dollars a été alloué pour le développement de Jérusalem. «Je souhaite que le dialogue prévienne et que rien ne provoque une explosion d'émotions».  
 Cet appel à la sagesse fait suite à la récente annonce par Israël de la construction d'une nouvelle colonie juive à Jebel Abu Ghneim, sur des hauteurs dominant la route conduisant de Jérusalem-est à Bethléem, qui comprendra 6500 logements réservés aux Israéliens.  
 Le roi Hussein a refusé de dire s'il avait demandé au Premier ministre israélien, au cours des trois heures d'entretien, de revenir sur cette décision.  
 La veille de cette deuxième visite officielle en Jordanie du Premier ministre israélien, son homologue jordanien Abdul Karim Kabariti avait vivement attaqué la politique de colonisation de l'Etat hébreu, déclarant que «toute relance de la colonisation» était «un véritable torpillage du processus de paix». Le roi Hussein s'était lui-même montré plus modéré, rappelant son opposition à une politique «qui modifierait la situation à Jérusalem» avant le début des négociations sur le statut définitif des territoires palestiniens.



## Economie

### Des besoins palestiniens en attente

Entravée par les nombreux aléas du processus de paix et les blocages imposés par les Israéliens, l'économie palestinienne est obligée de se reposer sur l'aide internationale. Une aide qui ne correspond malheureusement pas aux promesses annoncées.



Des travailleurs palestiniens sur un chantier de Jérusalem en 93.

#### L'aide financière

internationale jouera un rôle crucial dans la mise en place d'une administration palestinienne compétente et dans le redressement économique du pays... tant qu'une réelle dynamique d'investissement privé ne se mettra pas en place.

La signature de la Déclaration de principes du 13 septembre 1993 constitue un jalon important dans la reconnaissance mutuelle entre Israël et l'Organisation de libération de la Palestine (OLP). Elle a entraîné un processus certes sinueux et semé d'embûches mais qui, à plus ou moins long terme, devait - et doit - déboucher sur l'essentiel des attributions de la souveraineté. Les événements qui se sont succédés depuis cette date attestent à la fois l'irréversibilité du processus et la détermination de ses adversaires à le faire avorter.

Conscient de la nécessité de soutenir le processus entamé à Madrid lors de la conférence de 1991, consolidé à Washington en septembre 1993 puis à Tabat avec l'accord d'Oslo II en 1995, la communauté internationale s'est mobilisée pour promouvoir une aide économique et prouver que la paix ne vient pas «des mains vides» et qu'elle aura des retombées positives sur toutes les parties. Pour Israël d'abord, qui par le biais d'une normalisation de ses relations avec les pays arabes et la

principale région donatrice, de manière générale, la communauté internationale a promis 400 000 000 dollars pour 1995, mais les sommes réellement déversées se sont élevées à seulement 496 770 000 dollars en 1994 (soit 55 % de moins que les montants promis) et 262 950 000 dollars en 1995 (40 % de moins).

Ces chiffres appellent certaines remarques. La première est que la communauté internationale n'a pas respecté ses engagements à l'égard des Palestiniens. La seconde est que le financement de l'aide économique est confié à la Banque mondiale alors que l'Europe a fourni plus du quart de l'aide totale en 1994 et plus de 35 % en 1995. La troisième est que les organisations non gouvernementales (ONG) étrangères ont dépensé des sommes modestes en Palestine (22 millions de dollars

en 1994 et seulement 8 millions en 1995).

En outre, les blocages fréquents des enclaves urbaines placées sous le contrôle de l'autorité palestinienne ont quasiment annulé les effets bénéfiques de l'aide publique aux territoires palestiniens. Aujourd'hui, la situation économique dans ces territoires est pire qu'avant l'accord d'Oslo I. Les exportations palestiniennes continuent d'être entravées par l'autorité d'occupation. La circulation des marchandises à l'intérieur de la Jordanie et de Gaza est constamment contrôlée par les couvre-feux et les blocages. Par ailleurs, l'interdiction faite aux travailleurs palestiniens de se rendre en Israël constitue un manque à gagner dont souffre toute la population. Le coût de ces mesures a représenté 600 millions de dollars en 1995 et s'annonce encore plus lourd pour 1996.

Les ONG européennes ont été particulièrement actives en Palestine depuis l'intifada. Plus d'une centaine sont impliquées dans différents projets de développement ou de réhabilitation. Beaucoup d'entre elles ont bénéficié de l'aide bilatérale pour financer leurs activités. Cer-

tains ont accédé à des fonds communautaires. Leur travail a été facilité par l'existence d'un réseau associatif particulièrement vigoureux en Palestine et d'ONG locales efficaces. Il est fort probable qu'à l'avenir l'autorité palestinienne cherchera à réglementer l'action des ONG et exigera d'exercer un plus grand contrôle sur le choix des projets à financer ainsi que sur la comptabilité des ONG. Si le souci de la transparence est légitime, le risque est grand de voir la société civile mise sous contrôle d'une autorité tatillonne et centralisatrice.

Pour finir, l'aide publique aux Palestiniens s'est avérée relativement modeste au regard des besoins. Pour l'essentiel, elle a servi à financer les administrations, la police, les universités et divers frais de fonctionnement. C'est une situation malsaine qui ne doit pas se prolonger de façon excessive. Mais pour que les Palestiniens puissent subvenir à leurs besoins, il est indispensable que le processus de paix débouche sur une économie désenclavée et un Etat indépendant. Pour l'heure, la paix arrive au compte-gouttes: une sorte de paix au rabais.

Dr. Bichara Khader  
 Directeur du Centre d'études et de recherche sur le monde arabe contemporain

Husni Abou Ghaida,  
 vice-président du SIJ, se moque de l'attitude

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Fatigués d'attendre, les ingénieurs ont cette fois décidé d'agir et d'exprimer publiquement leur mécontentement.

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## Syndicats

### Les ingénieurs dans la rue

Trois mille ingénieurs ont manifesté samedi leur mécontentement en organisant un sit-in à Amman. Ils demandent l'application d'un protocole d'accord signé en novembre avec le gouvernement.

#### Malgré des conditions

météorologiques particulièrement défavorables, environ trois mille ingénieurs du secteur privé et public ont tenu samedi dernier un sit-in devant le ministère des Travaux publics et du Logement.

Quelques ingénieurs portaient leur parapluie dans une main et leur pancarte dans l'autre. D'autres préféraient s'abriter sous une tente installée sur le trottoir.

Face à eux, les forces de l'ordre protégeaient le ministère. Les portes du bâtiment restant fermées devant les manifestants.

«Nous nous battons pour nos droits», ce slogan figurant sur des banderoles explique la raison de ce mouvement de protestation. En novembre dernier, un protocole d'accord avait été signé entre le gouvernement et le syndicat des ingénieurs jordaniens (SIJ), le plus important des douze syndicats professionnels que compte le pays. Celui-ci répondait aux principales exigences des ingénieurs employés dans le secteur public, à savoir une amélioration des conditions de travail et une augmentation salariale. «Quand nous avons signé le protocole avec le gouvernement, nous avons décidé de lui donner trois mois pour l'appliquer», explique Latif Chelbat, président du SIJ.

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En apprenant à vivre au sein de plusieurs sociétés, Amanda Shehadeh a appris à s'ouvrir aux autres. «Partout où j'ai vécu, j'ai ressenti la plénitude de mon intégration». Une intégration réussie qui lui permet de proposer une peinture très riche s'inspirant de nombreuses influences.

Chérid Abdallah

La naissance et la vie d'Amanda Shehadeh sont une œuvre de création et de rapprochement entre plusieurs cultures. L'Angleterre, où elle a passé la plus longue période de sa vie, la France, où elle possède des racines maternelles, et enfin la Palestine, son grand amour et terre de son

œuvre.

Amanda a eu d'ailleurs de l'art à l'âge de quinze ans. Elle commence alors à dessiner des paysages sur des planches de bois que son père ramassait au grenier.

Cette vocation précoce lui donne envie de suivre un enseignement artistique. Elle étu-

diera pendant quatre ans au Maidstone Art College, dans le sud de l'Angleterre. Elle apprend à traduire ses rêves et ses impressions sur une toile.

«Je fais de mes images et de mes sentiments une sorte de tissu qui ressemble au monde auquel j'appartiens, et dont je veux toucher les reliefs», explique Amanda Shehadeh.

«J'essaie d'exprimer ce que je n'arrive pas à dire par la parole ou bien par l'écrit».

Les sujets des tableaux d'Amanda Shehadeh nous font vivre la réalité de l'artiste, ses souhaits, ses rêves et ses rêves. Dans sa peinture, cette jeune artiste cherche à aborder des thèmes qui peuvent être compris par le spectateur, de façon à le toucher dans ses sentiments.

Sa maîtrise des techniques artistiques est encore à l'état d'exploration et elle ne cesse de travailler sur les formes et les couleurs. Amanda Shehadeh parvient à développer un langage et à l'utiliser de façon simple et douce dans ses tableaux de façon à faire partager son monde aux spectateurs. Il dégage de son travail une impression de pureté et de transparence qui reflète l'âme d'une artiste fragile.

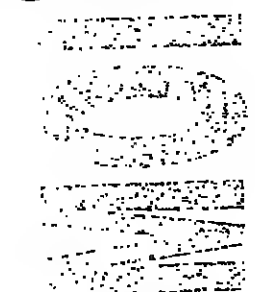
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cependant pas faire oublier le message qui perce dans certaines de ses œuvres. «Mes origines palestiniennes provoquent en moi émotion et fierté et me donnent une certaine combativité afin d'être mieux entendue», explique Amanda Shehadeh.

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Chérid Abdallah

## SELON



### Quand les intellectuels

arabes ont pris la décision de se rendre à Copenhague le mois dernier pour participer aux côtés de confrères israéliens à une conférence visant à ranimer le processus de paix, ils savaient qu'une controverse se développerait à leur retour. Ils savaient que l'ordre du jour de cette conférence ne plairait pas à leurs collègues arabes opposés à la normalisation. Certains, parmi eux, avaient même anticipé des réactions beaucoup plus violentes après la publication du communiqué de Copenhague. Ils en étaient conscients car, dans le passé, les personnalités prenant part à de telles réunions ont été régulièrement critiquées.

Certains, par crainte ou par manque de conviction, ont tout simplement décidé d'annuler leur voyage. D'autres, au contraire, ont tenu à y prendre part afin d'éviter pour la paix.

Pour les uns comme pour les autres, rien ne permettait de savoir si cette réunion de trois jours permettrait de modifier le cours actuel du processus de normalisation avec Israël.

Or, le point de vue arabe vis-à-vis de la normalisation semble avoir changé. L'opposition ne proteste plus contre le fait de s'associer à la même table que les Juifs, mais plutôt contre la teneur des discussions.

Depuis toujours, le fait d'entamer une discussion avec un Israélien, ou d'accepter son invitation à discuter, était considéré comme un acte de trahison. Adonis, l'un des plus brillants écrivains arabes, a été exclu de l'association des écrivains arabes de Damas pour avoir participé voilà quelques années à une réunion à Grenade en compagnie d'intellectuels israéliens. Et il a ensuite soigneusement évité de venir en Jordanie à cause d'une campagne féroce lancée à son encontre, bien qu'il ait été invité à animer des soirées de poésie au festival de Jérash. Pour avoir osé parler avec des Israéliens, il a été classé comme un écrivain dont les idées empoisonnent la nouvelle génération.

Tous les participants de cette réunion de Grenade se sont ainsi retrouvés sur la liste noire des normalisateurs. Une mesure reprise par la suite par les syndic



# Scientists report first Cloning

Continued from page 1

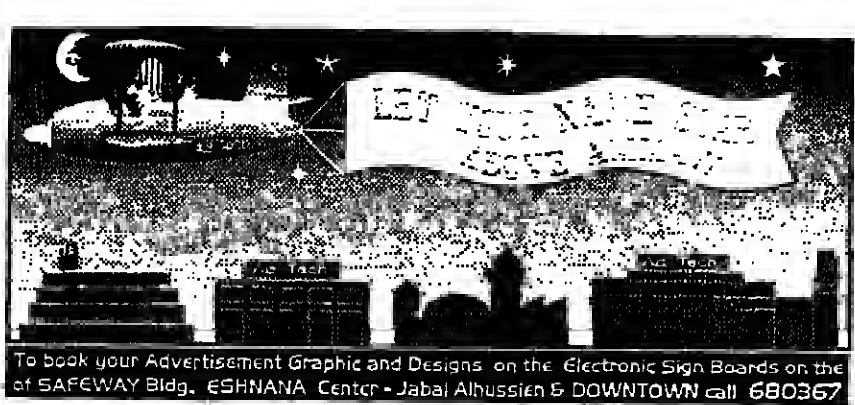
The technique used to speed up the process of cloning was genetically engineering the cells so that they would fuse with the human egg cell. The scientists picked the cells in their laboratory that could fuse with the egg cell and increase the chance of such a fusion. As the scientists used the technique, they found that the cells were not as good as the ones that had been used in the past. The scientists found that the cells were not as good as the ones that had been used in the past. The scientists found that the cells were not as good as the ones that had been used in the past.

## Activities

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American Centre Library	620101	Plaza Cinema	699238
British Council	6361478	Philadelphia Cinema	634144
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Goethe Institute	641993		
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THE STAR'S

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Edited by Zeid Nasser

## Tune into the Internet, through your home TV: Web TV, just another home appliance

By Jawad Abbassi  
Special to The Star

THE PROLIFERATION of computer use amongst both home and business users has made the forecasts about computers eventually becoming regular home appliances, very plausible.

Indeed, in many countries the situation has almost reached that stage. According to a report on telecommunications indicators published by the International Telecommunications Union, the United States is the world's leader with 27 computers per 100 people in 1995 and 3.1 Internet hosts per 100,000 people.

The G-7's average (the industrial nations of US, Canada, UK, Germany, Japan, France and Italy) was 17 computers per 100 people and 1.6 Internet hosts per 100,000 people.

While the lack of reliable information on Jordan's IT situation makes estimating the extent of computer proliferation an almost impossible task, the three main Internet hosts in the country make it quite simple to calculate the extent of Internet hosts proliferation in the Kingdom: it is a mere 0.075 per 100,000 people. Less than five percent of the Internet hosts ratio in the G-7 countries. This stresses the need for coordinated public and private

efforts towards remedying this unacceptable situation of a very minimal use of information technology in Jordan, which negatively affects Jordan's prospects for economic development.

Many would attribute the very low proliferation of computer and IT use in Jordan to the high investment costs of buying computer equipment, given people's priorities for securing basic life necessities.

Therefore, the service utilizes a product from Philips called the MagnaVox, which includes all needed equipment to start using regular TV and telephone line to surf the Internet.

The WebTV service allows for the Internet features of World Wide Web, Email and newsgroups. Of course, FTP (File Transfer protocol) is not an option, given that there is no computer HardDrive into which files can be downloaded. The WebTV product also features extensive control options that provide parents or schools with the ability to prevent access to web pages deemed unfit for their children or students, in addition to the ability to make the email option unavailable for use by these children (to safeguard against "talking to strangers").

WebTV (http://webtv.net) also advertises that its service includes customized and easily accessible banks of information on the Internet such as travel guides, phone directories, cartoons, stock quotes and news. WebTV's fees of \$19.95 per month are on par with other Internet service providers in the US. Of course, not needing a computer, makes this service more affordable for many.

The potential for such technology is tremendous, especially for countries where computer costs are still a major obstacle in the spread on Internet use; schools and households everywhere can readily start Internet-based research

### Computer & IT companies

Welcome to The Star's Workstation, the absolute source on what's hot and what's not in Jordan's IT market. Fax us on 649238 or email us at: [StarNETS.com.jo](mailto:StarNETS.com.jo) with your news and views.

## What you should know about the Internet email privacy: Internet's walls have ears too!

By Ala' Shahin  
Special to The Star

EMAIL IS the most common activity performed by users online. Whether you use email for personal and/or business correspondence, there is one fact you should know: Your email is by no means private!

### Useful analogy

Sending email has much in common with sending a postcard over traditional mail. When sending a postcard there is no envelope, so your message can be read easily by any postal clerk along the way. Email could be read by sysops and net administrators. You can think of them as "Cyber postal clerks". Although most "Cyber postal clerks" are too busy to look at every mail delivered, there is no guarantee to your privacy. You should be aware of the risks involved in sending "sensitive" personal or business data over email. In addition to "Cyber postal clerks", hackers may be able to see your email as well.

### Encryption: Your email envelope

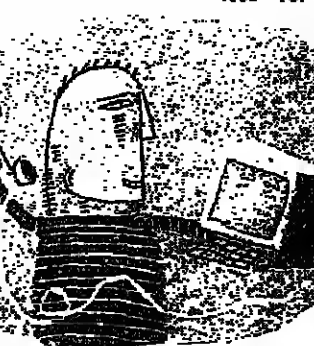
Encryption is a method of coding data (email messages in our case) to prevent unauthorized access. Encryption is equivalent to sending a postcard in an envelope so that it can't be seen by the postal clerks. Now, your email is

and education without the need for budget straining computer investments. The same goes for government agencies, hospitals and all organizations that have a need for using the Internet for communications and research but can't afford the computer hardware and training investments. By incorporating the use of the Internet into a very familiar household appliance like the TV and the phone line, another barrier of entry would be knocked down.

With such clear advantages and a big market potential, the starting of companies like WebTV around the world should only be a matter of time. Soon many people will be tuning in to the Internet rather than surfing it!

email: [Abbassi@NETS.Com.Jo](mailto:Abbassi@NETS.Com.Jo)

better protected and can't be seen by "Cyber postal clerks" or any prying eyes. There are some programs that can help you send encrypted email. They are available for Internet email packages, but they are less for



Beware: Somebody could be listening in on your email

the software used by local BBS.

The local BBS case If this is the case as far as the Internet is concerned, then the case of local BBS is worse for a number of reasons. First of all, encryption software usually does not work with the software used by a BBS. Another reason is that most BBSs don't have direct Internet emailing so messages stay on the server for prolonged times before delivery.

Local mail stay on the system and is thus even more vulnerable than Internet email.

There is a need for a pri-

vacuity rights section in every application form for online services. This should state that the service provider guarantees the privacy of the email on their system.

### Faxing through the Internet

Most information providers in Jordan offer email-to-fax services. Using such services to send faxes through your email account, can save you considerable costs. However, what applies to email privacy applies to this service as well. Faxing using the traditional fax-to-fax method is much more secure, but obviously much more expensive too.

Your minimum precautions for protection Here are some tips to help you reduce the risk involved in using email:

■ Don't send sensitive data through email such as credit card numbers, classified business documents and critical personal information.

■ Use direct faxing for critical documents.

■ Use encryption software if it is possible.

■ Change your passwords on a regular basis and use different passwords on different services if you have access to more than one service. Good luck and safe emailing!

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## T.E.N. delivers Motorola products to Jordanian market

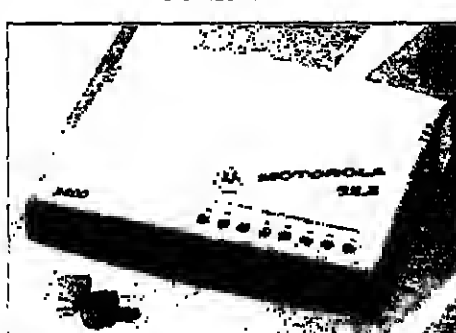
TELECOMMUNICATIONS & Networks (TEN), a data communications specialist, has been appointed by Motorola as the sole distributor for all Motorola data communications products in Jordan.

TEN offers a range of Motorola modems, routers, switches and general networking equipment.

The company has been successfully marketing Motorola modems, due to their high quality and competitive

pricing. The Motorola 3400 Pro in particular, offering 28.8 kbps, is attractive to all types of users.

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## INTERFACE

BY ZEID NASSER

### A need for more computerization

AFTER ALL these years of covering the Jordanian computer market, and detailing its many aspects, I was reminded by a friend that, in spite of all the developments that have taken place, there are still so many people out there who don't know the first thing about computing.

Seldom do we stop for a moment to consider the tens of thousands of people in the Jordanian work force who have never been exposed to computing, especially in particular fields and economic sectors, and mostly in areas outside Amman.

The "modern Jordanian office" is a concept that does exist, but only in a minority of businesses in the country. There is a lot of work yet to be done; many offices and businesses in the country have already heard of what computing could do for them, but have not applied it yet.

Here it is important to point out that it is the economic aspects that could be the main reason. After all, an entry level computer setup—including printer—costs around JD 1,000 minimum. Such a sum is a financial barrier for many.

For example, most lawyers in the country still use typewriters in their offices, whenever a typed letter or contract is required. Also, the majority of doctor clinics in the country still follow manual filing systems. Moving away from the professions, one type of business in particular stands out in Jordan, in terms of under-computerization.

Retail businesses, shops and stores, suffer from little or no computerization. All over the world, even the smallest shops are realizing the benefits of adopting Point-Of-Sale systems that also assist in inventory records. These systems are actually personal computers linked to cash tills.

Sometimes I wonder how come most of the supposedly up-market shops in West Amman haven't installed them. Still, there are encouraging signs in many pharmacies, video stores and other specialist shops.

Well, anyway, it's just a thought worth considering that the whole so-called "computer revolution" in Jordan has hardly scratched the surface of the actual potential of areas and fields in which computing should be applied.

Is this good news to computer vendors and sales companies? I don't know about that, but I'm sure technology will continue its march onwards in Jordan. Coupled with price drops in computing equipment, even the most resistant businesses and professionals will give in. It's just a matter of time.

\*\*\*\*\*

### 'Mopiers' to come your way

CROSS A Hewlett-Packard Laser Jet printer with a copier and what do you get? Well, if you still don't know, you get a Mopier, and you can even get it in Jordan, courtesy of Scientific & Medical Supplies Co. (SMS).

The Hewlett-Packard LaserJet SSI Mopier is an impressive product that represents a new trend in office equipment. If you're going to make a trip to the copier to photocopy something and another trip to the printer, to pick up a printed document, why not merged both tasks into one trip. This case of running around the building, to finalize your documents is quite true in middle and large size companies and organizations. Hewlett-Packard and other manufacturers understand this "Mopier" craze, or whatever they would like to call it, will become a fact of life in multi-user environments; or at least, this technology trend will be more widely seen.

email: [Zeid-Nasser@NETS.com.Jo](mailto:Zeid-Nasser@NETS.com.Jo)

## If it could go wrong, it did for Milan

ROME—Milan's nightmarish season continued on Sunday when they lost 1-0 to lowly Perugia, had Paolo Maldini and Christophe Dugary sent off and lost Edgar Davids with a broken leg.

League leaders Juventus drew 1-1 away to 10-man Fiorentina but stayed five points clear of Sampdoria who recorded the same result at Napoli.

Milan's Italy captain Maldini and French international striker Dugary were given their marching orders in the first half for blatantly elbowing defenders Marco Materazzi and Salvatore Matrecano.

Dutch international Davids then broke his right leg in two places when colliding with Perugia goalkeeper Luca Bucci on the brink of half-time.

Reduced to nine men, Milan were unable to equalise Marco Negri's 18th-minute header and slumped to their ninth league defeat of the season.

The Perugia goal underlined the champions' defensive shortcomings this season as Davids left Federico Giunti escape on the right to cross and veteran defender Pietro Vierchowod was comprehensively outplayed by Negri.

The 37-year-old Vierchowod left Perugia for Milan last summer without kicking a ball after falling out with the club.

In his desperation to save the match, coach Arrigo Sacchi put his personal feud with Roberto Baggio to one side and sent on the former European Footballer of the Year in the second half.

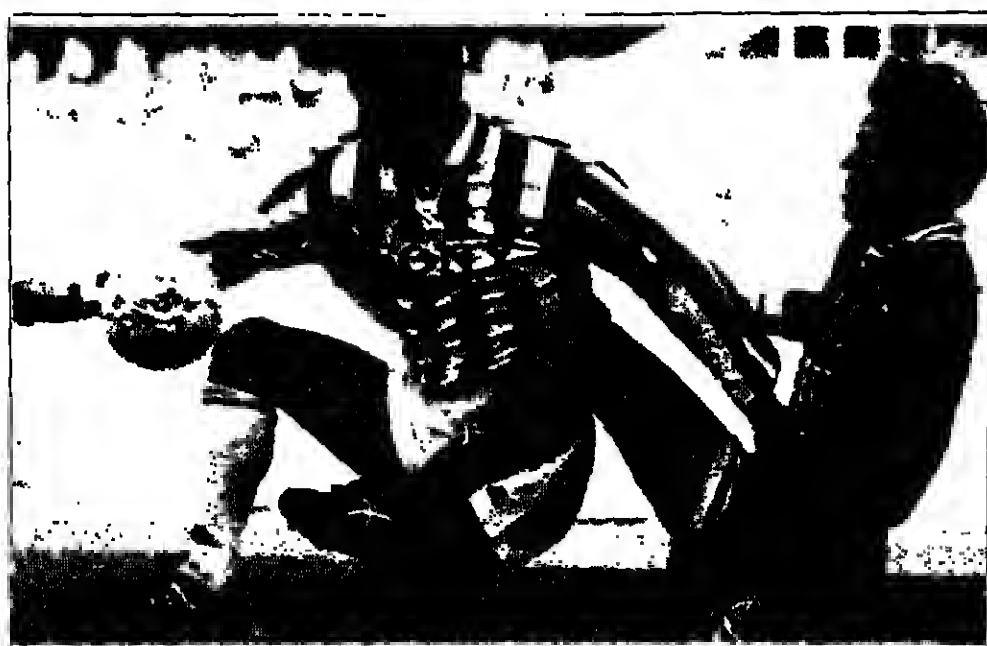
Then he brought on striker George Weah less than 24 hours after the Liberian had played for his country in Tanzania.

But it was all to no avail as Perugia held on for their first victory under manager Nevio Scala and Milan slid to 11th place in the table.

League leaders Juventus showed how to keep their cool under pressure, shrugging off the pre-match stoning of the team bus by Fiorentina fans to earn a 1-1 draw in Florence.

Players were showered with glass as stones thrown by Fiorentina's notorious supporters broke seven windows in the Juventus coach as it approached the ground.

Alessandro Del Piero steadied his team's nerves with a neatly judged 16th-minute header for his eighth goal of the season and his 50th for Juve.



Juventus looked well in control until substitute Anselmo Robbati equalised four minutes after the break.

But Fiorentina's hopes of upsetting the title favourites faded after central defender Daniele Carnasciale was sent off for his second bookable offence—his third red card of

the season. The draw moved Juve on to 41 points from 21 matches, five points clear of Sampdoria who needed a superb 88th-minute equaliser from Yugoslav sweeper Sinisa Mihajlovic to avoid defeat at Napoli.

Frenchman Alain Boghosian put Napoli in front in the

57th minute with a spectacular volley and the visitors looked destined for defeat until Mihajlovic's 35-metre free-kick.

Sampdoria were left to rue first-half efforts from Juan Veron. Mihajlovic and Roberto Mancini which all hit the woodwork.

Inter rose to third, two points adrift of Sampdoria, after bringing Atalanta's 10-match unbeaten run to a halt with second-half goals from Youri Djorkaeff and Ivan Zamorano.

Bologna drop to fourth on 32 points after a goalless home draw with Udinese. Vicenza lead a group of three sides—Roma, Atalanta and Parma—who play Lazio later on Sunday—all level on 31 points.

Vicenza warmed up for the second leg of their Italian Cup semifinal against Bologna on Wednesday by recovering from Gian Pietro Piovani's surprise fourth-minute opener to draw 1-1 with Piacenza.

Roma looked set to move into the top five after racing into a 2-0 lead at home to bottom club Reggina inside nine minutes with goals from Francesco Moriero and Francesco Totti.

However, the expensively assembled Roma then proceeded to throw the match away, first conceding a 65th-minute goal to Russian Igor Smirnov, then handing the visitors a point with a last-minute own goal from another Russian, Omer Tetradez.

## Bowe was expelled from marines for being 'problem' recruit

By Paul Duggan and Thomas Heath

WASHINGTON—A US Marine Corps Reserves spokesman said last Monday that former heavyweight boxing champion Riddick Bowe was discharged after one week not strictly because he wanted out, but because he was a "problem" recruit who "refused to train."

"This was just a case of a recruit who simply refused to train," said Maj. Rick Long, a Marine spokesman at Parris Island, S.C. "There were a lot of occasions when he was told to do something and he just said, 'No, I'm not going to do it.'"

Long said the Marines believe Bowe wanted to leave and purposely behaved in a manner that left the Marines little choice but to discharge him. Bowe, 29, of Fort Washington, Maryland, could not be reached for comment, but his lawyer and financial adviser, Jeffrey Fried, said last Monday Bowe quit the Corps because of his family.

"I truly believe that he underestimated how much he would miss his wife and children when he made the decision to join the Marines," Fried said.

Long said he wanted to clarify reports that he said gave the impression that Bowe was allowed to leave the Marines voluntarily last week after realizing that he had made a mistake by joining.

"You don't sign a contract with the United States Marine Corps, come in here, start training, and then say, 'Oops, I think I want to go home, and then just leave,'" Long said. "It's not that easy."

The Marines decided to expel their uncooperative recruit because the service didn't want him, not because Bowe wanted out, Long said.

Bowe arrived at Parris Island 10 February and spent the first two days undergoing routine processing, including paperwork, medical and dental tests and equipment pickup, according to Long. Bowe's platoon spent five days, from 13 till 17 February, preparing for the actual recruit training regimen that began 18 February.

Long said it became obvious that Bowe was "a problem" recruit during those initial five days after processing, and that his behavior became worse on 18 February when he refused to train.

"It's just obstinance, that's all," Long said. Long said normally a small percentage of recruits refuse to train and eventually are allowed to leave. Usually they are assigned to what is called "the casual platoon," a collection

of washout recruits who normally wait a week to 10 days for paperwork to be processed before they are sent home.

Media interest in Bowe's enlistment made him an exception from the start. And Long said Bowe's discharge was expedited, completed in a single day.

Fried said that while Bowe may have underestimated the challenge of boot camp, his supporters were proud of their fighter "for trying where others would not have made the effort."

"He learned it was difficult to undertake at the age of 29 a dream he had when he was 18, after 10 years enjoying the rewards of his hard work," Fried said.

Bowe, whose 40-1 record has earned him more than \$100 million, announced with great fanfare last month that he was taking a "sabbatical" from boxing to fulfill his lifelong dream of joining the Marine Corps. The boxing world was stunned that he would take on the difficult Marine training regimen; Bowe has long been criticized for not training hard enough for his fights.

Bowe entered the 12-week boot camp planning to resume his boxing career later this year. And he entered knowing the challenges that training would present, having visited Parris Island with the Marines' encouragement and permission to see what awaited him.

Fried said the environment of boot camp was a difficult adjustment for a world-class athlete accustomed to hotel suites and always surrounded by family and friends. Bowe found himself in an elite group of recruits, most of whom were in their late teens or early twenties. He couldn't call home to his wife, Judy, and five children.

His only contact with family or friends was Delon Jordan, a friend who was accepted into the Marines under the Buddy Program, meaning they attend boot camp together.

Long said that at the end of the days, Bowe would tell his drill instructor that he wanted to leave, which is not unusual for recruits. He said recruits are sent back to their platoons and the vast majority complete their training.

Fried said last Monday that he believes Bowe's departure was a mutual agreement between the boxer and his platoon leader.

In the end, the Marine Corps gave Bowe what is called an "entry-level separation."

"It's as though he was never in the Marine Corps at all," Long said.



Bowe

## Italian football union to crack down on hooligans

MILAN—Sergio Campana, head of the Italian players union, has called for British-style policing at Italy's football grounds in the wake of Sunday's attack on the Juventus team bus.

Windows were shattered and glass fragments sprayed over players and officials in the attack by a group of Fiorentina fans, who ambushed the bus on its way to the stadium in Florence.

No-one was injured, but the attack caused outrage among leading figures in Italian football and will be discussed at a meeting Monday by Campana's union.

Campana is particularly angry that none of the stone-throwers have been caught by the police.

"What I can't understand, and much less tolerate, is the fact that an offence committed by an individual goes unpunished—but when it's a group of football fans, then impunity becomes the rule," he said.

"This tolerance of gang behaviour is becoming dangerous," he warned, adding that Italy needed to learn from Britain's example when it comes to crowd control.

"In England, if a fan throws something onto the pitch, he soon finds himself in handcuffs and the following day he's in court."

"Here in Italy, people have been turning a blind eye to things for too long."

Sunday's incidents, which included scuffles involving police and fans, followed a similar attack earlier this month at Reggina's match against Parma.

"It's not enough for the referee to pick the objects up and give them to the fourth match official as if nothing had happened," Campana said.

Fiorentina president Vittorio Cecchi Gori described the youths who carried out Sunday's attack as "delinquents, like those who kill people by dropping

stones from motorway bridges"—a recent phenomenon in Italy.

Cecchi Gori added that he had offered to go in front of the Juventus team bus next season.

"But these sort of people would still throw stones," he lamented. "They are not Fiorentina fans and they don't even deserve to be talked about."

Juventus coach Marcello Lippi, aware of the intense longstanding rivalry between Fiorentina and Juventus fans, said: "This match is always accompanied by tension, and in this case by an ugly episode."

"But on the pitch, the players showed their concentration and their professionalism."

In the wake of Sunday's incidents, there was speculation that Fiorentina may be punished for what happened—with the club possibly facing a one-match suspension of their home ground.

Orphan cries are heard

Israel's housing growth cements grip on Jerusalem

News Analysis

Continued on page

Weather Outlook

A cold front will the Kingdom over the end. The weather will be cloudy to partly cloudy Thursday, Friday and Saturday with temperatures averaging 8 to 11 degrees during the day and 1 to 0 at night. The weather will be stormy at times, especially in the northern and central parts of the Kingdom. Agaba the weather will be partly cloudy to sunny with the sea calm. Temperatures will be below their seasonal average at about